BOANARGES

A.N D

BARNABAS:

OR

Judgement and Mercy for afflicted Soules.

Meditations.
Soliloquies.
and
Prayers.

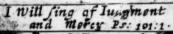
By

FRANCIS QUARLES.

London, Printed by Rich. Cotes for Richard Royston, and Richard Lownes, and are to bee iold at the Unicorn on Ludgare-hill over against. Bel savage, 1646.







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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

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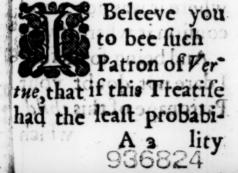
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T O
My most Gracious
SOVERAIGN
King
CHARLES.

SIR,



The Epistle

my Conscience durst not admit a thought of this Dedication to

your Majefty.

But my own Reason (seconded by better approbations) assures mee these Disquisitions and Prayers are like to beget grace in those where it was not, and confirm it where it was

And being so usefull, I dare not doubt your Patronage of this child,

which

Dedicatory.

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O

ld,

which survives a Father whose utmost abilities were (till death darkened that great light in his soule) sacrificed to your service.

But, if I could question on your willing protetion of it, I might strengthen my Petition for it, by an unquestion nable commendation of the Authors published Meditations, in most of which (even those of Poetry begun

The Epiftle

in his youth) there are fuch tinctures of Piety, and Pictures of devout Passions, as gain'd him much love, and many Noble Friends,

One of that number (which is not to bee numbred) was the Religious, Learned, Peaceable, Humble Bishop of Armagh; whom I befeech God to bleffe, and make your Major fty and him, in these bad, sad times, instru-

ments

Dedicatory.

ments of Good to this distracted, distemper'd Church and State.

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ts.

This is my unfained Prayer; and I doubt not but all that wish well to Sion, will seale it with their Amen.

Your Majesties Poor and
most Faithfull Subject,

RICHARD ROTSTON.

Destinatory

nimis of Good online delication delication of State.

This is my unfamed point not but all that with vieit to saw will feale it with the saw will feale

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The Preface.

Reader,

l is thought fit to lay this little, and but this little, of the author and his Book.

He was, (for I speake to those that are strangers to his extraction & breeding) a branch of a deserving family, and the son of a worthy sather: his education was in the Universities, and Innes of Court, but his inclination was rather to Divine divine studyes then the law.

This appears in most of his publisht books, (Which are many) but I thinke in none more then this , which was

finisht with his life.

Wherein the Reader may behold (according to the arguments undertaken by the Author) what paffions, and in what degrees those passions have poffeft his foul, and whether grace have yet allayed, or expel'd them, (those that are inconfiftible with vertue) from the Strong

The Preface.

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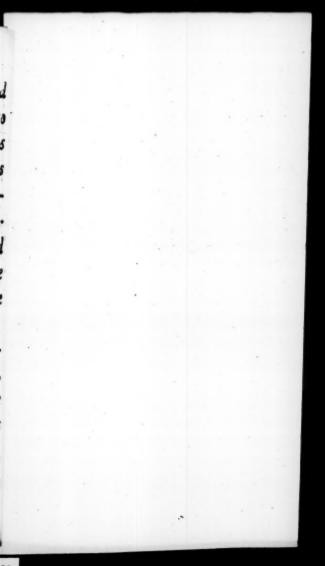
be

strong hold of his affections. Suchthis Treatife is, & being fuch I commend it to the Reader, and this wish with it that those many (too many) writers who mistake malice for zeal, and (being transported) speak evill of government, and meddle with things they understand not, Jud 8, 10. forgetting there is such sinnes as sedition and herefie, (fins which Saint Paul, Gal. 5.20.21 parallels with murther The Preface.

and witchcraft) would change their disputes into devout meditations, such as these be; in which the pious man shall see vertue adorned with beautifull language, and vice so presented as 'tis not like to insect the minde, nor corrupt the conscience.

The method, the arguments, the stile, all speak M. Quarles the Author of the Book, and the book speaks his commendations so much, that I need not commend it; but I do thee to God.

Farcwell



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The Sensuall Mans Solace.

Ome, let's be merry, and rejoyce our fouls in fro-lick and in fresh delighis: Let's skrue our pamper'd hearts a pitch beyond the reach of dulbrowd forrow : Let's paffe the flow-pac'd time in melancholy. charming mirib, and take the advantage of our jouthfull dayes: Let's banifh care to the dead Sea of Phlegmatick old age; Leta deep figh be high Treafon, and let a solemne looke bee adjudg'd a Crime too great for Pardon. My ferious studies shall bee to draw mirth into a Body, to analyse laughter, and to paraphrase upon the various Texts of all delights. My recreations shall bee to still pleasure into a Quintessence, to reduce Beautie to her first principles, B 3

10 The Senfuall mans Solace.

ciples, and to extract a perfect innocence from the milk-white Doves of Venue, Why should I fpend my precious minutes in the fullen and dejected fades of fadnesse? or ravell out my short liv'd dayes in solemn and heartbreaking Care? Houres have Eagles wings, and when their halty flightshall put a period to our numbred dayes, the world is gone with us, and all our forgotten joyes are left to be enjoyed by the fucceeding generations, and we are inatcht we know not how, we know not whither; and wrapt in the dark bosome of eternall night. Come then my foule; be wife, make use of that which gone, is pattrecalling, and loft, is past redemption: Eate thy bread with a merry heart, and gulp down care in frolique cups of liberall wine. Beguile the tedious

The Sensuall mans Solace. 11

dious nights with dalliance, and Heepe thy flupid fenses in unaious, in delightfull forts. 'Tis, all the portion that this transitory world can give thee : Let Mufick, Voices, Masques and midnight Revels, and all that melancholy wifdome centures vaine, bee thy delights. And let thy care-abjuring foul cleare up and sweeten the short dayes of thy confuming youth. Follow the ways of thy owne beart, and take the freedome of thy fweet defires: Leave not delight untryed, and spare no cost to heighten up thy lufts. Take pleasure in the choice of pleasures, and please thy curious eyes with all varieties, to fatisfie thy foule in all things which thy heart defires. I, but my foule, when those evill dayes shall come wherein thy wasting pleasures shall present B 4 their ..

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when all diseases and the evilt of age shall muster up their Forces in thy crazie bones, where be thy comforts then?

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Confider O my foule, and know [that the day will come, and after that another, wherein for all these things

God will bring thee to judgmenn, Ecclef. 11.9.

Prov. 14. 13.

Even in laughter the heart is forrowfull, and the end of that mirib in beavine fe.

Ecclef. 2. 2.

I said in my heart, Goe to now, I will prove thee with mirth, and therefore enjoy pleasure, and behold this also is vanity, I said of laughter, itn mad; and of mirth, what doth it?

St. James.

Te bave lived in phasure on the earth and

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and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts as in the day of slaughter.

Ecclef. 7. 4.

The heart of the wife man is in the bouse of mourning; but the heart of fooles is in the house of mirth.

Ilid in Synonymis.

Pleasure is an inclination to the unlawful objects of a corrupted mind, allured with a momentary sweetnes.

Hugo.

Sensuality is an immoderate indulgence of the flesh, a sweet poyson, a strong plague, a dangerous potion which effeminates the body, and enerves the soule.

Caff. Lib. 4. Ep.

They are more sensible of the burthen of affliction, that are most taken with the pleasures of the flesh.

Whas:

VHat hast thou now to fay Omy soule, why this judgment, seconded with divine proofes, backt with the barmeny of holy men, should not proceed against thee? Dally no longer with thy owne fatvation, nor flatter thy owne corruption : Remember, the wages of flesh are fin, and the wages of finne, dearb : God hath threatned it, whose judgements are terrible; God hath witnessed it, whose words are Truth. Confider then my foul, and let not momentarie pleasures flatter thee into eternity of torments: How many, that have trod thy fleps, are now roaring in the flames of hell! and yet thou trifleltaway the time of thy repentance. Omy poor deluded foul, presume no longer, repent to day, left to morow come too

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thy dayes beyond Methusalem, tell me alas, what will eternity be the shorter for the deduction of a thousand yeers? Be wifely provident therefore O my sonl, and bid vanity, the common forceresse of the world farewell; life and death are yet before thee: Chuse life, and the God of life will seal thy choice. Prostrate thy self before him whodelights not in the death of a sinner, and present thy petitions to him who can deny thee nothing in the name of a Saviour.

His Prayer.

Ogod, in the beauty of whose holinesse is the true joy of those that love thee, the sull happinesse of those that fear thee, and the onely rest of those that prize thee; In respect of which, the transitory pleasures

of the world are leffe then nothing, in comparison of which the greatest wisdom of the world is folly, and the glory of the earth but droffe and dung; How dare my boldnesse thus presume to prese into thy glorious prefence? What can my prayers expect but thy just wrath and heavie indignation? O what return can the tainted breath of my polluted lips deserve, but to bee bound hand and foot, and cast into the flames of Hell? But Lord the merits of my Saviour are greater then the offences of a finner, and the sweetnesse of thy mercy exceeds the fharpnesse of my mifery: The horrour of thy judgements have seized upon me, and I languish through the sense of thy displeasure, I have forsaken thee the rest of my distressed foule, and fet my affections upon

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on the vanity of the deceitfull world. I have taken pleasure in my foolishnesse, and have vaunted my selfin mine iniquity, I have flattered my foule with the hony of delights, whereby I am made sensible of the stink of my affiiction; wherefore I loath, and utterly abhor my felf, and from the bottom of my heart repent indust & ashes. Behold O Lord, I am impure and vile, and have wallowed in the puddle of mine own Corruptions; The Sword of thy displeasure is drawn out against me, and what shal I plead O thou preserver of mankind? Make me a new Creature O my God, and destroy the Old man within me. Remove my affections from the love of transitory things, that I may run the way of thy Commandements. Turne away mine eyes from beholding vanity,

vanity, and make thy testimonies my whole delight. Give mee ftrength to difcern the emptiness of the creature, and inebriate my heart with the fulness of thy joyes. Beethouny portion O God, at whose right hand stand pleasures for evermore. Be thou my refuge and my fhield, and fuffer mee not to linke under the corruptions of my heart; let not the house of mirth beguile me, but give me a fense of the evil to come. Accept the free-will offerings of my mouth, and grant my petitions for the honour of thy Name, then will I magnifie thy mercies O God, and praise thy name for ever and cver.

The Vain-glorious mans vaunt.

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Hat tell'A thou me of Conscience, or a pieus life? They are good trades for a haden spirit that can stand bent at every frown, and want the braines to make a higher Fortune, or courage to atchieve that bonour which might glorifie their names, and write their memories in the Chronicles of Fame. 'Tis true, Humility is a needfull gift in those that have no quality to exercise their pride; and patience is a necessary grace to keep the world in peace, and him that hath it, in a whole skin, and often proves a vertue born of meer necessity. And civil bonesty is a fair pretence for him that hath not wit to act the Knave, and makes a man capable of a little higher stile then Foole. And

20 The Vainglorious mans vaunt.

And blushing modesty is a pretty innocent quality, and ferves to vindicate an easie nature from the imputation of an il-breeding, These areinseriour Graces that have got a good opinion in the dull wisdome of the world, and appeare like water among the elements to moderate the body Politique, and keep it from combuftion, nor doe they come into the work of honour. Virtue confifts in Adion, and the reward of action is Glory. Glory is the great sonle of the little world, and is the Crowne of all fublime attempts, and the point whereto the crooked wayes of policy are all concentrick. Hower confults not with a pious life. Let those that are ambitious of a Religious reputation, abjure all honorable Titles, and let their doughbak'd spirits take a pride in sufrance,

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ferance, (the Anvile of all injuries) and bee thankfully baffled into a quiet pilgrimage. Rapes, murthers, treafons, dispossessions, riots, are ventall things to men of bonour, and oft co-incident in high pursuits. Had my dull Conscience flood upon fuch nice points; that little honour I have wonne had glorified fome other arme, and left me begging Morfells at his Princely gates. Come, come, my foule, Id fadum juvat quod fieri non licet. Fear not to doe, what crownes thee being done. Ride on with thy Honour, and create a name to live with faire Eternity. Enjoy thy purchas'd Glory as the merit of thy renowned Actions, and let thy memory entaile it to fucceeding Generations. Make thy owne game, and if thy confcience correct thee check thy fau-

cy

cy Conscience, till shee stand as mute as metamorphos'd Niobe. Feare not the frownes of Princes, or the imperious hands of various Fortune. Thou art too bright for the one to obscure, and too great for the other to cry downe.

But harke my soule, I heare a voice that thunders in mine eare I will change their glory into shame,

Hof. 4. 7.

Pfal. 49. 20.

Man that is born in bonour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.

Prov. 25.27.

It is not good for to eate too much boney, so for men to search their own glory, is not glory.

Jer.

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Jer. 9. 22.

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Thus faith the Lord: Let not the wife man glory in his wifdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth, glory in this, that he underfrandeth and knoweth mee that I am the Lord.

Gal. 5. 26.

Let m not bee defirous of vain-glo-

St. August.

The vain glory of the world is a deceitfull sweetness, an unfruitfull labour, a perpetuall fear, a dangerous bravery, begun without providence, and finished not without repentance S. Greg.

He that makes transitory bonour the reward of a good worke, jets eternall gary at low rate,

Vain-

24

VAin-glory is a Froth, which blowne off, discovers a great want of measure: Canst thou O my foul, be guilty of fuch an emptinesse, and not bee challeng'd? Canst thou appeare in the fearching eye of heaven, and not expect to be cast away? deceive not thy felf O my foul, nor fletter thy felf with thy own greatnesse. Search thy felf to the bottome, and thou fhalt find enough to humble thee: Doft thou glory in the favour of a Prince? The fromn of a Prince determines it. Doft thou glory in thy strength? A poor Ague betrayesit. Doft thou glory in thy mealth? the hand of a thiefe extinguishes it. Dolthou glory in thy friends? One cloud of advertity darkens it. Doft thou glory in thy parts? thy own pride obseures it. Behold my foul, how like a Bubble thon

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appearest, and with a figb break into sorrow, the gate of heaven is strait, canst thou hope to enter without breaking? The Bubble that would passe the Floodgates must first dissolve: My soule mele then in tears, and empty thy self of all thy vanity, and thou shalt find divine repletion; evaporate in thy Devotion, and thou shalt recruit thy greatnesse to eternall Glory.

His Prayer.

And can I choose O God but tremble at thy judgements, or can my stony heart not stand amazed at thy threatnings? It is thy voice O God, and thou hast spoken it: It is thy voice O God, and I have heard it. Hadst thou so dealt by me, as thou

thou didft by Babels proud King, and driven me from the fons of Men, thou hadft but done according to thy righteousnesse, and rewarded mee according to my defervings: What couldst thou fee in mee leffe worthy of thy vengeance then in him, the example of thy justice? Or Lord, wherein am I more uncapable of thy indignation? There is nothing in me to move thy mercy but in mifery. Thy goodness is thy felfe, and hath no ground but what proceedeth from it felf, yet have I finned against that goodnesse, and have thereby heaped up wrath against theday of wrath; that infomuch, had not thy Grace abounded with my fins I had long fince bin confounded in my fin, and fwallowed up in the gulph of thy dif pleasure. But Lord, thou takes

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27

no delight to punish, & with thee is no respect of persons: thou takest no pleasure in the confusion of thy creature, but rejoycest rather in the conversion of a finner. Convert mee therefore O God, I shall be then converted; make me fenfible of my own corruptions, that I may fee the vileneffe of my own condition. Pull downe the pride of my ambitious heart; humble mee thou O God, and I hall bee humbled : Weane mee from the thirst of transitory honour, and let my whole delight bee to glory in thee: Touch thou my conscience with the feare of thy name, that in all my actions I may fear to offend thee: endue me O Lord with the spirit of meeknesse, and teach me to overcome evill with apatient heart: moderate aud curb the exorbitances of my palfion,

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fion, and give me temperate use of all thy creatures. Replenish my heart with the graces of thy Spirit, that in al my ways I may be acceptable in thy fight. In all conditions give me a contented minde, and upon all occasions grant me a gratefull heart, that honouring thee here in the Church militant before men , I may be glorified hereafter in the Church triumphant before thee &Angels, where filled with true glory according to the measure of grace thou shalt be pleased to give me here, I may with Angels andArchangels praise thy Name for ever and ever.

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The Oppressors Plea.

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Seeke but what's my owne by Law: It was his owne free All and Deed: The execution lies for goods or body, and goods or body I will have, or elfe my money. What if his beggerly children pine, or his proud wife perish? They perish at their own charge, not mine, and what is that to mee? I must be paid, or he lie by it untill I have my utmost farthing, or his The Law is just and bones. good, and being ruled by that, how can my faire proceedings bee unjust? What's thirty in the hundred to a man of Trade? Are we born to thrum Caps, or pick ftraws? and fell our liveli-

bood for a few teares, and a whining face? I thanke God they move mee not fo much as a bowling Dog at midnight: I'le give no day, if heaven it felfe would bee fecurity; I must have present money, or his bones. The Commodities were good enough, as wares went then, and had he had but a thriving wit, with the necessary help of a good merchantable Conscience, hee might have gained perchance as much as now hee loft; but howfoever, gaine, or not gaine, I must have my mony. Two tedious Termes my dearest gold hath laine in his unprofitable hands. The coft of Suit, hath made me bleed above a score of Royals, befides my Interest, travel, half pints, and bribes; all which does but encrease my beggerly defendants damages, and fets him deeper

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deeper on my score; but right's right, and I will have my money, or his bones. Fifteen shillings in the pound composition? lle hang first. Come, tell not mee of a good Conscience, a good conscience is no parcell of my Trade; it hath made more Binkrupts, then all the loofe wives in the univerfall City. My conscience is no foole. It tells mee that my owne's my owne. and that a well-cramm'd bagge is no deceitfull friend, but will flick close to mee, when all my friends forlake mee: If to gaine a good Estate out of nothing, and to regaine a desperate debt, which is as good as nothing, be of the fruits and fign of a bad conrel, ence, God help the good. Come, ich tell not mee of griping and oprly preffion. The world is hard, and im he that hopes to thrive, must per C 2 gripe gripe as hard: What I give, I give; and what I lend, I lend: If the way to heaven bee to turne begger upon earth, let them take it that like it, I know not what ye call Oppression. The Law is my direction; but of the two, it is more profitable to oppresse, then to bee oppress. If debtors would bee honest and discharge, our hands were bound; but when their failing offends my bags, they touch the Apple of my eye, and I must right them.

But hah! what voice is this chat whispers in mine eare,

The Lord will spoil the soul of the Oppressors, Prov.

22.23.

God help the bed. Com

dragation & sometime

Pro. 21. 22.

Rob not the poor, because he is poore, neither oppresse the afflicted in the gates, for the Lord wil plead their cause, and spoile the soule of those that have spoyled him.

Fzek. 22. 19.

The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised Robbery, and have used the poor and needy; year they have oppressed the franger wrongfully. I berefore I have poured out my indignation upon them, I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath.

Zach. 7.9.

Execute true judgement, and shew mercy & comp. ston on every man to his brother, and oppresse not the widow nor the fatherlesse, nor the stranger, nor the poore, and let nome of you imagine evill in your hearts against his brother. But they resused to bearken; therefore

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came a great wrath from the Lord of Hosts.

Bernard, p. 1691.

We ought so to care for our selves, a not to neglet the due regard of our neighbour.

Bern. ibid.

He that is not mercifull to another, foall not find mercy from God; but if thou wil'ft bee mercifull and compassionate, thou soals bee a benefactor to thy owne soule.

His Solilogny.

Is it wisdom in thee O mysoul to covet a bappinesse, or rather to account it so, that is sought for with a judgement, obtained

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ned with a Curfe, and punished with damnation; And to neglect that good which is affured with a promise, purchased with a bleffing, and rewarded with a Crowne of Glory? Canft thou hold a full estate, a good pennyworth, which is bought with the deare price of thy Gods displeasure? Tell mee, what continuance can that Inberitance promise that is raised upon the rames of thy Brother? Or what mercy canst thou expect from heaven, that haft denged all mercy to thy Neighbone (6) my hard-hearted foul confider, and relent: Build not an house whose posts are subject to be rotted with a cuife: Confider what the God of truth hath threatned against thy cruelty; Relent, and turn compassionate, that thou mayst be capable of his compassion. If the defire of Gold hath hardened thy heart, let the tears of true Repentance mollifie it; soften it with Aarons syntment, untill it become wax to take the impression of that seale which must confirme thy Pardon.

His Prayer.

But will my God bee now entreated? Is not my crying fin too loud for pardon? am I not funk too deep into the jaws of Hell, for thy strong arme to rescue? Hath not the hardnesse of my heart made me uncapable of thy compassion? O if my teares might wash away my fin, my head should turne a living Spring:

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y 1, Spring: Lord I have heard thee fpeake and am affraid; the word is palt, and thy judgements have found me out. Fearfulnesse and trembling are come upon mee, and the Jaws of hell have overwhelmed mee: I have oppreffed thy poore, and added affliction. to the afflicted, and the voyce of their misery is come before thee. They befought mee with teares, and in the anguish of their fouls, but I have stopt mine ears against the cry of their complaint. But Lord, thou walkest not the ways of man, and remembrek mercy in the midden of thy wrath, for thou art good and gracious, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in compassion to all that shall call upon thee. Forgive mec O God my fins that are past, and. deliver me from the guilt of my Oppression: Take from mee O God

God this heart of stone, and create in my breast a heart of flesh: Affwage the vehemency of my defires to the things below, and fatisfie my foul with the fufficiency of thy Grace. Inflame my affections, that I may love thee with a filiall love, and incline me to relie upon thy fatherly providence : Let me account godlineffe my greatest gaine, and fubdue in me my lusts after filthy lucre. Preserve me O Lord from the vanity of felf-love, and plant in my affections the true love of my neighbours: Endue my heart with the bowells of compaffion, and then reward me according to thy righteousnesse: Direct mee O God in the wayes of my life, and leta good Conscience be my continual comfort. Give me a willing heart to make relitution of what I have Wrongnd

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wrongfully gotten by oppreffion. Grant me a lawfull use of all thy Creatures, and a thankfull heart for all thy benefits. Be mercifull to all those that groan under the burden of their owne wants, and give them patience to expect thy deliverance: Give me a heart that may acknowledge thy favours, and fill my tongue with praise and thanksgiving, that living here a new life, I may become a new ereature, and being ingraffed in thee by the power of thy grace, I may bring forth fruit to thy honour and glory.

The Drunkards Jubile.

VV Hat Complement will the severer world allow to the vacant hours of fro-Houe-hearted youth! How shall their free, their joviall spirits entertain their time, their friends ! What Oyle shall bee infused into the lampe of deare fociety, if they deny the priviledge of a civill rejoycing Cup? It is the life, the radicall humour of united foules, whose love-digested heat even ripens and ferments the greene materialls of a plighted faith; without the help whereof new married friendship fals into divorce, and joyn'd acquaintance foon resolves into the first Elements of frangem Je. What mean thefe ftrict Reformers thus to spend their house-glasses, and bawle ill

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bawle against our harmless Caps? to call our meetings Riots, and brand our civil mirth with stiles of loofe Intemperance? where they can fit at a fifters Feaft, devoure and gurmundize beyond excelle, and wipe the guilt from off their marrowed mouths, and cloath their furfeits in the long fustian robes of a tedious Grace: Is it not much better in a faire friendly Round (fince youth must have a fwing) to fleep our fouleafflicting forrows in a chirping Cup, then hazard our estates upon the abuse of providence in a foolish caft at Dice ? Or at a Cockpit leave our doubtfull fortunes to the mercy of unmercifull contention? Or spend our wanton dayes in facrificing costly presents to a fleshly Idoll? Was not Wine given to exhilarate the drooping hearts, and raise the drowzie

42 The Drunkards Jubile.

drowzie spirits of dejected fouls? Is not the liberall Cup the Sucking-bottle of the fons of Phebus, to solace and refresh their palats in the nights of fad Invention? Let dry-brain'd Zelots spend their idle breaths, my cups shall be my cordialls to restore my care-befeebled heart to the true Temper of a well-complexioned mirth: My folid Braines are potent, and can beare enough, without the least offence to my distempered Senses, or interruption of my boon companions: My tongue can in the very Zeninb of my Cups deliver the expressions of my composed thoughts with better fense, then these my grave Reformers, can their best advised prayers. My Conflitution is potproofe, and firong enough to make a fierce encounter with the most stupendious vessell that e-

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ver failed upon the tides of Bacchm. My reason thrinks not; my passion burns not.

O But my foule, I heare a

rupts my language,

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Woe bee to them that are mighty to drivke Wine, Ela. 5. 22.

Prov. 20. 1.

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosever is deceived thereby is not mife.

Efay 5. 1.1.

We be to them that rife up early in the morning to follow frong drink that continue till night, suntill wine enflamethem.

Prov. 23. 20.

Be not among ft wine-bit bers.

1 Cor. 5. I.

Now I have written unto you, not to keep company, if any that is called a brother be a drunkard, with such a me, no not to eate.

Aug

Aug. in lib. pen.

Whilst the dramkard swallows wine, wine swallowes him; God disregards him, Angels despise him, Men deride him, verme declines him, the devil destroyes him.

Aug. ad fac. virg.

Drunkennesse is the mother of all evill, the matter of all mischiefe, the wel-spring of all vices, the trouble of the senses, the tempest of the tongue, the shipwracke of chastity, the consumption of time, avoluntary madnesse, the distemper of the body, and the destruction of the soul.

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Y foule, it is the voice of M God digested into a judgment: There is no kicking against Pricks, or arguing against a divine Truth: Pleadest thou Custome? Custome in finne multiplies it: Pleadest thou feciety? Society in the offence, aggravates the punishment: Pleadest thou belp to invention? Woe be to that barenneffe that wants fuch foorms: Pleadest thou strength to beare much white woe soubofe that are mighty to drinke frong drinks: My foole, thou halt finned a gainft thy Creater in abusing that er eature hee made to ferve thee : Thou hast finned against the creature, in turning it to the Creators dishonour: Thou hast finned against thy felf, in making thy comfort thy confusion. How many want that bleffing thou hast turn'd into a curse? How

How many thirst, whilst thou surfeitest? What satisfaction wilt thou give to the Creator, to the Creature, to thy selfe; against all whom thou hast transgrest? To thy selfe, by a suber life; to the Creature, by a right use; to thy Creator, by a true repentance; the way to all which, is Prayer and Thanksgiving.

His Prayer.

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How truly then, O God, this heavie woe belongs to this my boasted sin? How many judgments are comprised and abstracted in this woe, and all for mee, even me O God, the miserable subject of thy eternall wrath; Even mee O Lord, the marke whereat the shafts of thy displeasure levell? Lord, I was a sinner

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finner in my first conception, and in sinne hath my mother brought me forth; I was no fooner, but I was a flave to fin, and all my life is nothing but the practife and the trade of high rebellion: I have turn'd thy bleffings into thy difhonor, and all thy graces into wantonneffe: Yet haft thou been my God even from the very wombe, and didft fustaine mee when I hung upon my mothers breaft . Thou haft washed mee O Lord from my pollution, but like a Swine I have returned to my mire. Thou hast glaunced into my breast the bleffed motions of thy holy Spirit, but I have quenched them with the springtides of my born corruption. I have vomited up my filthinesse before thee, and like a dog have I returned to my vomit. Be mercifall O God unto me, have mercy on me O thon fon of David; I cannot O Lord expect the childrens bread, yet fuffer mee to lick the crums that fall beneath their table; I that have so oft abused the greatest of thy bleffings am not worthy of the meanest of thy favors. Look, look upon me according to the goodnesse of thy mercy, and not according to the greatnesse of my offences. Give me O Goda fober heart, and a lawfull moderation in the enjoyment of thy Creatures. Reclaim my appetite from unseasonable delights, left I turn thy bleffings into a curle : In all my dejections bethou my comfort, and let my rejoycing be onely in thee. Propose to mine eyes the evilnesse of my days, and make mee carefull to redeem my time: Wean me from the pleasure of vain society, and let rd

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to m let my companions bee such as feare thee; Forgive all such as have been partners in my sinne, and turn their hearts to the obedience of thy laws. Open their eares to the reproofs of the wise, and make them powerfull in reformation. Allay that lust which my intemperance hath instan'd, and cleanse my affections with the grace of thy good Spirit; make me thankfull for the strength of my body, that I may for the time to come return it to the advantage of thy glory.

VVIII Boanarges never cease?
And will these Plaguedenouncers never leave to thunder judgements in my trembling eare? Nothing but plagues? Nothing but judgements? Nothing but damnation? What have I done to make my cafe desperate? And what have they not done to make my foul despaire? Have I fet up falle Gods like the Egyptians? or have I bowed before them like the Ifraelites? Have I violated the Sabbath like the Libertines? Or like curfed Cham; have I difcovered my Fathers nakednesse? Have I imbrued my hands in blood like Barabbas? Or like Abfolon defiled my fathers bed? Have I like Jacob supplanted my elder brother? Or like Abab intruded into Nabals vineyard? Have I horn falle

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rn lle false witnesse like the wanton Elders? Or like David coveted Vriahs wife? Have I not given tithes of all I have? Or hath my purfe been hidebound to my bungry brother? Hath not my life beene blameleffe before men?and my demeanor unreprovable before the world? Have I not hated Vice with a perfect hatred? and countenanc'd Vertue with a due refpet? What meane thefe friet observers of my life, to ransack every action, to carp at every word, and with their sharp censorious tongues to sentence every frailty with damnation? Is there no allowance to humanity? No grains to flesh and blood? Are we all Angels? Has mortality no priviledge to supersede it from the utmost punishment of a little necessary frailty? Come, come, my foul, let not these judgement-thunderers fright

fright thee: Let not these qualmes of their exuberous zeal difturbe thee: Thou hast not cursed like Shimei, nor rail'd like Rabshekab, nor lied like Anania, nor flander'd like thy accusers. They that cenfurethy gnats swallow their own camels. what if the luxuriant stile of thy discourse doe chance to strike upon an obvious Oath, art thou itraight hurried into the bosome of a Plague? What if the custome of a harmlesse oath should captivate thy heedlesse tongue, can nothing under fudden judgment seiz upon the? what if anothers diffidence should force thyearnest lips into a hasty oath, in confirmation of a suffering & truth, must thou be straightways branded with damnation? was Iofepb mark'd for everlasting death, for swearing by the life of Egypti King?was Peter when he so denymes

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ed his mafter, straight damn'd for (wearing, and forfwearing? O flatter not thy felf my foul, nor turn thou Advocate to fo high a fin : Make not the flops of Saints a precedent for thee to fall.

IF the reduces of flell may not prevail, heare then the threatening of the Spirit which faith, The Plague Shalt not depart from the

bonfe of the mearer.

Exod 20. 7.

Thou falt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain, for the Lord will not hold bim guiltleffe, that taketh bis name in vain.

Zacb. 5.3. ath, And every one that freareth fhal be cut off. ring Swear not at all, neither by heaven, vays for is is Gods throne, nor by the 8 10- earth, for it is bis foot foole : But let ath, your communication be year year, gypts nay nay for what foever is more then eny- thefe, commeth of evill, Mat. 5.34.

Jer. 23. 10.

Because of swearing the Land mournetb.

Aug. in Ser.

The murtherer killeth the body of bin brother, but the swearer murthers bis own soule.

Aug. in Pfal. 88.

It's well that God hath forbidden man to sweare, lest by custome of swearing (in as much as wee are apt to mistake) we commit perjury: there's none but God can sofeity sweare, because there's no other but may be deceived.

August, de Mendacio.

I say unto you, Sweare not at all, left by swearing ye come to a facility of swearing; from a facility to a cufrome, and from a cuffome ye fell into perjury.

What a judgement is here! How terrible! How full of Execution! The Plague? theextract of all difeafes?none fo mortall, none so comfortlesse! It makes our house a Prison, our friends frangers; No comfort but in the expectation of the moneths end: I, but this judgement excludes that comfort too, The plague fal ne'r depart from the boufe of the Swearer; What never? death will give it a period: No, but it shall bee intail'd upon his boufe, his family : Odeteftable! Ode-Arudive fin! that leaves a Crofe upon the dores of Generations, and layes whole families upon the dust: A fin whereto, neither profit incites, nor pleasure allures, nor necessity compels, nor inclination of nature perswades; a meer voluntary, begun with a malignant imitation, and continued with

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with an babituall prefumption. Confider O my foul, every Oalb hath been a naile to wound that Saviour, whose blood (O mercy above expression!) mult save thee: Be sensible of thy Actions, and his sufferings: Abhor thy self in dust and asbes, and magnishe his mercy that hath turn'd this judgment from thee. Goe wash those wounds which thou hast made, with teares, and humble thy self with prayer & true repentance.

O His Prayer install

E Ternalli and commissions ame Angels, and Archangels bow and hide their faces, to which the bleffed Spirits and Saints of thy triumphant church fing forth perpetual! Hallelujabi, I a poor Sprig of disobedient Adam doe here make bold to take that

that holy name into my fin-pol Inted lips: I have hainoufly finned O God against thee, and againfing I have disparaged it in my thoughts, dishonoured it in my words, profaned it in my actions, and I know thou art a jealous God, and a confirming: fire, as faithfull in thy promifes, fo fearfull in thy judgements, It therefore fly from the dreadfull Name of Jehovah, which I have abused, to that gracious name of Jesus, wherein thou art well pleased; in that most sacred name O God, I fall before thee, and for his beloved fake O Lord I come unto thee. Cleanse thou my heart O God, and then my tongue shall praise thee : Wash thou my foule, O Lord, and then my lips shall blesse thee. Work in my heart a feare of thy displeafure, and give me an awfullreve-. rence

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rence of thy Name. Set thou a watch before my lips, that I offend not with my tongne; Let no respects intice me to be an inftrument of thy dishonour; and let thy attributes be precious in mine eyes, teach me the way of thy Precepts, O Lord, and make me fenfible of all my offences:let not my finful cuttome in finning against thy Name take from my guilty foule the fenfe of my fin : Give mee a respect unto all thy Commandements, but especialty preserve me from the danger of this my bosome sin. Mollifie my heart at the rebukes of thy fervants, and firike into my inward parts a feare of thy judgements: Let all my communication bee order'd as in thy presence, and let the words of my mouth bee governed by thy Spirit, Avert shofe judgments from me which thy

thy Word hath threatned, and my fin hath deferved, and firengthen my resolution for the time to come; Work in me a true godly forow, that it may bring forth in me a newnesse of life. Sanctifie my thoughts with the continual meditation of thy Commandements, and thortifie those paffions which provoke mee to offend thee. Let not the examples of others induce me to this fin, nor let the frailties of my flesh feek figleaves to cover it. Seal in my heart the full affurance of thy reconciliation, and look upon me in the bowells of compaffion, that crowning my weak defires with thy all-fufficient power, I may escape this judgement which thy justice hath threatned here, and obtaine that happinesse thy mercy hath promifed hereafter.

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The Procrastinators Remora's.

Ell me no more of fasting, prayer, and death; they fill my thoughts with dumps of Melan. choly. Thefeareno subjects tor a youthful ear, no comemplation for an active foul: Let them whom fullen Age hath weaned from aery pleasures, whom wayward fortune hath condemn'd to fighs and groanes, whom fad difeafes have beflaved to drugs and diets; let them confume the remnant of their wretched dayes in dull devotion : Let them afflict their aking foules with the untunable discourses of mortality, Let them contemplate on evill dayes, and read sharp Lectures of their own experience: For me, my bones are full of unctious marray, and my blood of sprightly bouth: My

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My faire and free estate fecures me from the feares of fortunes fromne. My strength of constitution hath the power to grapple with forrow, licknesse, nay, the very pangs of death, and overcome. 'Tis true, God must bee fought; What impious tongue dare be so basely bold to contradict foknown a truth? and by repentance too: What strange impiety dare deny it? Or what presumptuous lips dare disavow it? But there's a time for all things, yet none p efixt for this, no day deligned, but, At what time foever: If my unseafonable heart should seek him now, the work would bee too ferious for so green a feeker. My thoughts are yet unsetled, my fancy yet too too gamesome, my judgment yet unfound, my Will unfanctified; to feeke him with an unprepared D 5 heart

heart is the high way not to find him, or to find him with unsetled resolution is the next way to lose him; and indeed it wants but little of profanenesse, to bee unfeafonably religious. What is once to bee done, is long to bee deliberated. Let the boyling pleasures of the rebellious flesh evaporate a little, and let me draine my boggy foul from those corrupted, inbred humors of collapsed nature, and when the tender bloffomes of my youthfull vanity shall begin to fade, my fetled underfanding will begin to knot, my folid judgement will begin to ripen, my rightly guided will be resolved, both what to seek, and when to find, and how to prize: till then, my tender youth, in her purfuit, will bee dilturb'd with every blaft of honour, diverted with with every fiash of pleasure, misled by Counfell, turned back with feare, puzled with doubt, interrupted by paffion, withdrawne with prosperity, and discourag'd with adversity.

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TAke heed my foule, when thou hast lost thy self in thy journey, how wilt thou finde thy God at thy journeys end ? Whom . thou hatt loft by too long delay, thou wilthardly find with too late a diligence. Take time while time shall serve, that day may come wherein

Thou falt feek the Lord, but falt not finde bim, Hof, 5.6.

Efay 55.6.

Seck the Lord while be may be found; call upon bim while be n neare.

Heb. 12. 17.

Hee found no place for repentance, though he fought it with hears carefully

Thou fool, this night will I take thy foule from thee.

Revel. 2, 21.

I gave ber a space to repent, but shee repented not; Behold therefore I will cast her.

Greg. lib. Mor.

Seek God whilft thou canft not see him, for when thou jeeft him, thou canft not find him; seek him by hope, and thou shalt finde him by faith: In the day of grace hee is invisible, but we are; in the day of judgement he is visible, but far off.

Ber. Ser. 24.

If we would not seek God in vaine, It us seek him intruth, often, and constantly let us not seeke another in stead of him, nor any other thing with him, nor for any other thing, leave him.

My foul, thou haft fought Omealib, and hast either not found it, or cares with it; thou halt fought for pleasure, and halt found it, but no comfort in it : Thou foughtest bonour and halt found it, and perchance fallen with it : Thou foughtest friendfbip, and halt found it falle; fociety, and hast found it vaine; And yet thy God, the fountaine of all wealth, pleasure, honour, friendship and society, thou hast slighted as a toy not worth the finding: Be wife my foule, and blufh at thy own folly. Set thy defires on the right objett: Seek wifdom, and thou shalt find knowledge, and wealth, and honour, and length of days: Seek heaven, and earth shall feek thee; and deferre not thy Inquest, lest thou lose thy opportunity: 10 day thou maist find him, whom to morrow thou maift

mayst seek with teares and misse: Yesterday is too late, to morrow is uncertain, to day is onely thine; I, but my soule, I feare my too long delay hath made this day too late; sear not my soul, he that has given thee his Grace to day, will forget thy negled of yesterday, seek him therefore by true repentance, and thou shalt sinde him in thy Prayer.

His Prayer.

God, that like thy precious Word art hid to none, but who are loft, and yet art found by all that feek thee with an upright heart, cast downethy gracious eye upon a lost sheep of Israel, strayed through the vanity of his unbridled youth, and wandred in the wildernesse of his own invention. Lord, I have

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too much delighted in mine own ways, and have put the evil day too far from me; I have wallowed in the pleasures of this deceitfull world, which periff in the using, & have neglected thee my God, at whose right hand are pleasures for evermore: I have drawn on iniquity, as with cartropes, and have committed evill with greedinesse : I have quencht. the motions of thy good spirit; and have delayed to feek thee by true and unfained repentance:In stead of seeking thee whom I have loft, I have withdrawne my felf from thy prefence when thou halt fought me. It were but justice therefore in thee to stop thine eares at my petitions, or turn my Prayers as fin into my bosome : But Lord, thouart a gracious God, and full of pity and unwearyed compassion, and thy loving

loving kindnes is from generation to generation: Lord, in not feeking thee, I have utterly loft my felf, and if thou find me not, I am loft for ever, and if thou find me, thou canst not but find me in my fins, and then thou find'it me to my owne deftination. How miferable O Lord is my condition! How necessary is my confusion! that have neglected to feek thee, and therefore am afraid to bee found of thee. But Lord, if thou look upon the all-sufficient merits of thy Son, thy justice will bee no lofer in shewing mercy upon a finner; In his name therfore I present my self before thee; in his merits I make my humble approach unto thee; in his name I offer up my feeble Prayers; for his merits grant me my petitions. Call not to minde the rebellions of my flesh, and

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and remember not O God the vanities of my youth; Inflame my heart with the love of thy presence, and relish my meditations with the pleasure of thy sweetnesse. Let net the confideration of thy justice overwhelm me in despaire, nor the meditation of thy mercy perswade mee to presume, Sanctifie my will by the wifdome of thy Spirit, that I may defire thee as the chiefest good. Quicken my defires with a fervent zeale, that I may feeke my Creator in the dayes of my youth; Teach mee to feeke thee according to thy will, and then bee found according to thy promise, that living in mee here by thy grace, I may hereafter raign with thee in glo-

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Here is no fuch fuffe to I make a cloake on as Religiou;nothing fo fashionable, nothing fo profitable; it is a Livery, wherein a wife man may ferve two Masters, God and the world, and make a gainefull fervice by either: I ferve both, and in both my felfe, in prevaricating with both. Before man none serves his God with more severe devotion, for which, among the best of men I work my own ends, and ferve my felf. In private I ferve the world, not with fo frict devetion, but with more delight, where fulfilling of her fervants lufts I work my end, and ferve my felf; The house of Prayer who more frequents then I?in all Christian duties who more forward then I? I faft with those that faft, that I may eat with those that eat: I monrae with those that mourne: No

to. No hand more open to the Canfe igi- then mine; and in their families no- hone prayer longer and with louery, Ber zeale: Thus when the opinion rve of a holy life hath cryed the ld, goodnesse of my Conscience up, by my trade can lack no custome, my th wares can want no price, my th words can need no credit, my actihis ons can lack no praife. If I am coon, vetous, it is interpreted proviof dence; if miferable, it is counted nd temperance; if melanchely, it is ve construed godly forrow; if merry, . it is voted spirituall joy; if I bee ere rich, tis thought the bleffing of a I godly life; if poor, supposed the fruit of conscionable dealing; if I be well spoken of, it is the merit an of holy conversation; if ill, it is en the malice of Malignants; thus at | I fail with every winde, and have I my end in all conditions. This e: Cloake in Summer keepes mee coole,

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cool, in winter warm, and hides ted the nasty Bag of all my fecret lufts: Under this Cloake I walk the in publik fairly, with applaule, fo and in private fin-fecurely, withab out offence, and officiate wifely fec without discovery; I compasse pl fea and land to make a Profelyte, and no fooner made, but hee I makes me. At a Fast I cry Geneva, c and at a Feast I ciy Rome. If I be poor, I counterfeit abundance 7 to fave my credit; if rich, I diffembk poverty to fave charges. I most frequent Schismaticall Lectures, which I find most proftable, from whence learning to divulge and maintaine new do-Arines, they maintaine mee in suppers thrice a weeke; Iuse the help of a lie, sometimes as a Religious stratagem to uphold the Gospel, and I colour oppresfion with Gods judgement executed

ides ted upon the wicked. Charity cret I hold an extraordinary day, alk therefore not ordinarily to be peruse, formed. What I openly reprove ith- abroad for my own profit, that I fecretly act at home, for my owne pleasure.

But stay, I fee a handwriting in my heart damps my foul, 'tis charactered in these sad words, Wee be to you bypocrites, Mat. 23.13. The triumphing of the wicked is short, and the joy of the bypocrite is but for a moment, Job 20. 5.

lob 15. 34.

The congregation of the hypacrites Shall be defolate.

Pfal. 11.9.

An bypocrite with his mouth destrayeth bis neighbor, but through knowledge fall the just be delivered.

Luke 12.1.

Remare of the leaven of the Phari-Scos, which is hypocrifie.

Job

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Job 36. 13.

The hypocrites in heart beape up wrath, they die in their youth, and their life is among st the unckan.

Salvian.de Gubern. Dei.l.4.
The hypocrites love not those thing they prosesses, and what they pretend in words, they disclaimed practise; their sin is the more damnable, because usbered in with pretence of piety, having the greater guilt, because it obtaines a good repute.

Hieron. Ep.

Endeavour rather to be, then to be thought holy; for what profits thee to be thought to be what the art not? and that man doubleshing wilt, who is not so holy as the world thinks him, and counterfell that holine se which be hath not.

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How like a living Sepuleber did I appeare! without, beautified with gold and rich inventions; within, nothing but a loathed corruption; to long as this fair Sepulcher was clos'd , it paft for a curious Monument of the Builders Art, but being opened by these spirituall Keyes, 'tis nothing but a Receptacle of offenfive putrefaction: In what a nafty dungeon hast thou my soule, so long remain'd unftifled? How wer't thou wedded to thy owne corruptions, that couldst endure thy unfavoury filthinesse? The world hated me, because I seemed good; God hated mee, because I onely feemed good: I had no friend but my felf, and this friend was my befome enemy: O my foul, is there water enough in Iordan to elenfe thee Hath Gilead Balm

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mot.

Balme enough to heale thy superannuated fores? I have sinned, I am convinced, I am convicted, Gods mercy is above Dimensions, when sinners have not sinned beyond repensance are thou my soule truly pensione for thy sin? Thou halt free inverest in his mercy, fall then my soule before his Mercy seat, and he will crown thy pensione with his pardon

His Prayer.

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God! before the brightnes of whose All-discerning eye, the secrets of my hearts appeare, before whose cleare omniscience the very entralls of my soul lie open, who art a God of righteousnesse and truth; and lovest uprightnesse in the inward parts: How can I chuse but feare

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feare to thrust into thy glori ous presence, or move my finfull lips to call upon that Name which I fo often have dishonoured, and made a Cloake to hide the basenesse of my close transgreffions? Lord, when I look into the progresse of my filthy life, my guilty conscience calls mee to fo strict account, and reflects to mee fo large an Inventory of my presumptuous sins, that I commit a greater sinne in thinking them more infinite then thy mercy. But Lord, thy mercies have no date, nor is thy goodnesse circumscribed. The gates of thy compassion are alwayes open to a broken my heart, and promise entertainof ment to a contrite fpirit; the burnd then of my finnes is grievous in- and the remembrance of my hypocrifie is intolerable: I have

finned against thy Majesty with a high hand, but I repent mee from the bottome of an humble heart: As thou haft therefore given mee forrow for my finnes, fo crowne that gift in the freenesse of remission: Bee fully reconcil'd to me, through the allsufficient merits of thy Sonne my Saviour, and feal in my afflicted heart the full affurance of thy gratious favour: Be thou exalted O God above the heavens, and let mee praise thee with a finele heart; cleanse thou my inward parts O God, and purihe the closet of my polluted foul; fix thoumy heart O thou fearcher of all fecrets, and keep my affections wholly to the. Remove from mee all by and bale relbeds, that I may ferve thee with an upright spirit: take not the word of trueth out of

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my mouth, nor give me over to deceitfall lips: Give mee an inward reverence of thy Majefty, that I might openlyconfesse thee in the truth of my fincerity. Be thou the only object, and end of all my actions, and let thy honour be my great reward : Let not the hopes of filthy lucre, or the praise of men incline mee to thee, neither let the pleafures of the world, nor the feares of any loffe entice me from thee. Keep from mee those judgements my hypocrifie hath deserved, and firengthen my resolution to abhorre my former life: Give mee frength O God to ferve thee with a perfect heart in the newnesse of life, that I may bee dellvered from the old man, and the fnares of death: then shall I praise thee with my entire affections,& glorifie thy name for ever and eer.

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The Ignorant mans faltering.

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Y Ou tell mee, and you tell me that I must be a good man, and ferve God, and doe his will; and fo I doe for ought I know: I am fure I am as good as God has made mee, and I can make my self no better, so I cannot: And as for ferving God, I am fure I go to Church as well as the best in the Parish, though I bee not fo fine; and I make no queftion, if I had better cloubes, but I should doe God as much credit as another man, though I fay it: And as for doing Gods will, I beffirew mee, I leave that to them that are booke-learn'd, and can doe it more wifely: I beleeve the Vicar of our Parish can doe it, and has done it too, as well as any within five miles of his

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his head, and what need I trouble my felfe to doe what is fo well done already ? I hope hee being so good a Churchman, and fo great a Schollard, and can speake Latine too, would not leave that to fo simple a man as I. It is enough for mee to know, that God is a good man; and that the ten Commandements are the best prayers in all the book; unleffe it be the Creede. And that I must love my neighbour as well as he loves mee, and for all other Quilicoms, they shall never trouble my braines, an grace a God. Let mee goe a fundayes and ferve God, obey the King, (God bleffe him)doe no man no wrong, fay the Lords Prayer every morning and evening; follow my worke, give a Noble to the poore at my death, and then fay Lord have mercy upon mee, & go away like a Lamb,

\$2 The ignorant mans faltering.

Lambe, Imake no question but I shall deserve heaven as well as hee that weares a gayer coare: But yet I am not fo ingrant neither, nor have not gone fo often to Church; but I know Christ died for mee too, as well as for any other man: I'de bee forry elfe, and that, next to our Vicar, I shall goe to heaven when a I am dead as foone as another; nay more, I know there bee two Sacraments, bread and mine, and but two, (though the Papifts fay there be fix or feven) and that I verily beleeve I shall be saved by those Sacraments, and that I love God above all, or elfe rwere pity of my life, and that when I am dead and rotten (as our Vicar told mee) I shall rise again and be the fame man I was. But for that, hee must excuse mee, till I have better fartifaction; for all his learning, hee cannot make me such a fool, unlesse he shew me a better reason for't,

then yet he has done.

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But one thing hee told mee, now I think on't, troubles me woundly, namely, that God is my Master, all which I confesse; and that I must do his will (whether I know how to doe it or no) or else it will goe ill with me: I le read it (he said) out of Gods Bible, and I shall remember the words so long as I have a day to live, which are these,

· Hee that knoweth not his mafters will, and doth things worthy of fripes, shall be beaten with few

Aripes, Lake 12.48.

I Cor.14.20.

Brethren be not children in underfranding, howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

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I Cor. 15.34.

Awake to righteousnesse and fin not, for some have not the knowledge of God, I speak it to your shame,

Ephef. 4. 18.

Walk not in the vanity of your minds baving the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, through the Ignorance which is in you, because of the blindnesse of your hearts.

Levit. 5.17.

And if a soule fin and commit any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the Commandments of the Lord, though be wist it not, yet is bee guilty, and shall heare his iniquity.

2 Thef. 1. 7, 8.

The Lord Jesus shall bee revealed from heaven, with his mighty Angels, in flaming fire, taking vengeance on them that know not God. ts of

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Greg. Mag. Moral.

It is good to know much, and to live well; but if we cannot attain both, it is better to defire piety then wisdome, for knowledge makes no man happy, nor doth blessednesse consist in intellectuals. The onely brave thing is a religious life.

Just. Mart. Resp. ad orthod. To sin against knowledge, is so much

the greater offence then an ignorant trespasse, by bow much the crime which is capable of no excuse, is more hainous then the fault which admits a tolerable plea.

His Soliloquie.

HOw wel it had been for thee Omy foule, if I had booke-land; Alas I cannot read, and what I heare, I cannot underfund; I cannot profit as I fould; E 5 and

and therefore cannot be as good as I would, for which I am right forry : That I cannot ferve as wel as my betters, hath bin often a great griefe to mee, and that I have beene so ignorant in good things, hath been a great heartbreaking unto mee: I can fay no prayers for want of knowledge to read, but Our Father, and the Creed : But the comfort is, God knows my heart, but I trust in God [Our Father] being made by Christ himselfe, will be enough for mee that know not how to make a better. I endeavour to doe all our Vicar bids me; and when I receive the Communion, I truly forgive all the world for a formight after, or fuch a matter, but then fome old injury makes mee forget my felfe, but I cannot help it, an my life should lie ont, O my ingrant foul. ht

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foule, what shall I doe to bee saved? All that I can say, is, Lord bare mercy upon me; and all that I can doe, is, but to doe my good will, and that Ile doe with all my heart, and say my prayers too as well as God will give me leave, an grace a God.

His Prayer.

Od the Father of heaven have mercy upon me miserable sinner; I am, as I must needs confesse, a sinfull man, as my forefathers were before mee: I have heard many Sermons, and have had many good lessons from the mouths of painfull Ministers, but through the dulnesse of my understanding, and for want of learning I have not profited so much as else I should have.

have done: spare me therefore O God, spare me whom thou hast redeemed with thy pretious blood, and bee not angry for ever: I must confesse the painfulnesse of my calling, and the heavineffe of my own nature hath taken from mee the delight of hearing thy Word, and the ignorance of learning which I was never brought up to, hath kept me from reading it, that infomuch, in flead of growing better I feare I have grown worse and worse; and have bin fo far from doing thy will, that I doe not understand what thy will is very well. But thou O mercifull God that didft reveale thy felf to poore Shepherds and Fishermen that had no more learning then I, have mercy upon me for Jesus Chilf his sake. Thou that halt promised to instruct the simple, and.

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and to lead the ignorant into thy way, be good and mercifull to mee I befeech thee; Thou that drawest the needy out of the duft, and the poore out of the dunghill, give me the knowledge of thy will, and teach me how to ferve thee: Take from me the drowzinesse of my heart, open mine eyes that I may fee the truth, and mine eares that I may understand thy Word, and strengthen my memory that I may lay it up in my heart, and fhew it in my life and vocation, to thy glory and my comfort, and the comfort of my friends. Lord write thy wil in my heart, that when I know it, I may doe it willingly : O teach mee what thy pleasure is, that I may doe my best to performe it. Give mee faith to lay hold of Christ, who died for me, that after I am dead,

I may arise againe, and live with him. Give mea good heart that I may deale honeftly with all men, and do as I would be done to. Bleffe me in my calling, and prosper the labour of my hands, that I may have enough to feed me and cloath me, and to give to the poore. Mend all that is amiffe in mee, and expect from me according to the measure thou haft given mee, Forgive mee all my fins, and make mee willing to please thee, that living a good life, I may makea gratious death, and fo at last I may come to heaven and live for ever, for Jesus Christ his fake, Amen.

The flothfull mans flumber.

What a world of Curfes, the cating of the forbidden fruit

The flothful mans slumber. 91

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en at fruit hath brought upon mankind! and unavoidably entail'd upon the fons of men! Among all which no one appeares to mee more terrible and full of forrow, and bewraying greater wrath, then that insufferable, that horrible punishment of labour, and to purchase Bread with so extreame a price as freat : But O what hap, what happineffe have they, whose dying Parents have procured a quiet fortune for their unmolested Children, and conveigh'd descended rests to their succeeding heirs, whoseeafie and contented lives may fit and fuck the sweetnesse of their cumberless eftates, and with their folded hands enjoy the delicates of this toilsome world! How bleffed, how delicious are those eafemorfells, that can finde the way to my foft palat, and then at92 The flothful mans flumber.

attend upon the wanton leafure of my filken flumbers, without the painfull practife of my bosome-folded hands, or fad contrivement of my studious and contracted Brows! Why should I tire my tender youth, and torture out my groaning dayes in toyle and travell? and discompose the happy peace of my harmonious thoughts with painfull grinding in the common mill of dull mortality? Why should I rob my craving eyelids of their delightfull rest, to cark and care and purvey for that Bread which every work-abhorring vagabond can finde of Almes at every good mans doore? Why should I leave the warm protection of my carebeguiling Doune, to play the droyling drudge for daily food, when the young empty Ravens (that have no hands to worke, nor

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nor providence, but heaven) can call and be supplyed? The pale fac'd Lilly, and the blufhing Rofe, neither spinnes nor sows, yet Princely Solomon was never robed with fo much glory. And shall I then afflict my body, and beflave my heaven-born foule to purchase Rags to cloath my nakedneffe? Is my condition worfe then Sheep, ordain'd for flaughter, that crop the fpringing graffe, closth'd warme in foft Arrayment, purchas'd without their Providence or pains? Or shall the Pamper'd Beaft that thines with fatnesse, and grows wanton through his carefull Groomes indulgence, find better measure at the worlds too partiall hands then I? Come, come, let those take pains that love to leave their names inrol'd in memorablemonuments of parchment; the day has griefe

grief enough without my helpe; and let To morrowes shoulders beare to morrows burthens.

But stay my soule, O stay thy rash resolves, take heed whilst thou avoid the punishment of sin, labour, thou meet not the reward of idlenesse, judgement,

The idle foule fall fuffer hunger, Prov. 19. 15.

Eccles. 10. 18.

By much flothfulnes the building decayeth, and through idlenesse of the bands the bouse droppeth thorough.

Exod. 16.49.

Behold, this was the iniquity of thy fifter Sodome, pride, fulnesse of Bread, and abundance of idleness was in her, and in her daughters, neither did shee strengthen the hand of the poore and needy.

Prov.6.6,7,8.

Go to the Pismire O sluggard, behold her wayes, and be wise.

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For she having no guide, governours nor ruler, prepareth her meat in Summer, and gathereth her food in harvest.

Nilus in Parzeef.

Idlenesse in the wombe or fountain of all wickednesse; for it consumes and wasts the riches and vertues which we have already, and disinables us to get those we have not.

Nilus in Paran.

We be to the idle foule, for he foall bunger after that which his rist confumed.

His Solileguy.

How presumptuously hast thou my foul, transgrest the expresse Commandement of thy God!

God! How haft thou dasht thy self against his judgements! How hath thy undeserving hand ufurpt thy diet, and wearest on thy back the mages of the painefull soule! Art thou not condemned to Rags, to Famine, by him whose law commanded thee to labour? And yet thou pamper'ft up thy fides with stollen food, and yet thou deck'ft thy wanton body with unearn'd ornaments; whiles they that spend their daily strength in their commanded callings (whose labour gives them interest in them) want Bread to feed, and Rags to cloath them. Thou art no young Raves my foule, no Lilly: Where ability to labour is, there providence meets action, and crowns it: He that forbids to cark for to morrow, denies Bread to the Idlenesse of to day : Consider Omy foul

foule thy owne delinquency, and let imployment make thee capable of thy Gods protection: The Bird that Ats, is a faire mark for the Fowler, while they that use the wing escape the danger; follow thy calling, and heaven will follow thee with his Bleffing: What thou hast formerly omitted, present repentance may redeeme, and what judgements God hath threatned, early Petitions may avert.

His Prayer.

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Most great and most glorious God, who for the fin of our first parents hast condemned our fraile bodies to the punishment of labour, and hast commanded every one a Calling

and a Trade of life, that hatelt idleneffe as the root of evill, and threatnest poverty to the slothfull hand; I thy poore suppliant convicted by thy judgments and conscious of my own transgresfion, fly from my felf to Thee, and humbly appeale from the high Tribunall of thy Justice, and feek for refuge in the Sanauary of thy Mercy: Lord, I have led a life displeasing to thee, and have been a scandall to my profession; I have slighted those Bleffings which thy goodneffe hath promised to a conscionable calling, and have swallowed downe the Bread of idleneffe; I have impaired the Talent thou gavest me, and have lost the op portunity of doing much good I have filled my heart with idle imaginations, and have laid m A felte open to the luks of the flesh

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I have abused thy favours in the misexpending of my precious time, and have taken no delight in thy Sabbaths; I have doted too much on the pleasures of this world, and like a Droane have fed upon the hony of Bees. If thou O God shouldst be extreme to fearch my wayes with too fevere an eye, thou couldit not choose but whet thy indignation, and powre the vialls of thy wrath upon me: look therefore not upon my fins, O Lord, but through the merits of my reffe Saviour, who hath made a full able fatisfaction for all my fins:what through my weaknesse I have fail'd to doe, the fulnesse of his hou fufferings hath most exactly op done; In him O God in whom ood thou art well pleased, and for idle his fake bee gracious to my fin; d m Alter my heart and make it wilfleft ling

ling to please thee, that in my life I may adorne my profession: Give me a care and a conscience in my calling, and grant thy bleffing to the lawfull labours of my hand; Let the fidelity of my vocation improve my Talent, that I may enter into my Mafters joy; Rouze up the dulneffe and deadnesse of my heart, and quench those flames of luft within mee. Affist mee O God in the redemption of my time, and deliver my foule from the evilneffe of my dayes; Let thy Providence accompany my moderate endeavours, and let all my employments depend upon thy Providence, that when the labours of this finfull world shall cease, I may feel and enjoy the benefit of a good conscience, and obtain the reft of new Fernfalen in the Eternity of glory. T be

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The proud mans Oftentation.

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T'Le make him feel the weight of displeasure, and teach him to repent his faucy boldneffe: How dare his basenesse once prefume to breath fo near my perfor, much more to take my name into his dunghill mouth? me thinks the luftre of my sparkling eye might have had the power to aftonish him into good manners, and fent him backe to cast his minde into a fair Petition, humbly presented with his trembling hand. But thus to presse into my presence, to presse so neer my face, and then to speake, and speake to me, as if I were his equall, is more then sufferable: The way to be contemn'd is to digest contempt, but he that would be honour'd by the vulgar must wifely

110 The Proud mans

wifely keep a distance : A countenance thats referv'd breeds fear and observation : but affability and too easie an accesse makes fooles too bold, and reputation cheap : What price I fer upon my owne deserts, instructs opinion how to prize me : That which base ignorance miscalls thy pride, is but a confcious knowlege of thy merits: dejected soules craven'd with their own diffrutts, are the worlds Footballs to be kickt and fpurnd; but brave and true heroick spirits, that know the frength of their owne worth, shall baffold balenesse, and presumption into a reverentiall filen e, and spire of envie flourish in an honourable repute Come then my foule advance thy noble, thy ublimer thoughts, and prize thy elf according to thole parts, which all may wonder at ten imitate, but none

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can equall : Let not the infolent affronts of vaffals interrupt thy Peace, nor feem one scruple lesse then what thou art : Be thou thy felfe, respect thy felfe, receive thou honour from thy felfe, Rejoyce thy felf in thy felf, and prize thy felte for thy felfe ; Like Cefar admit no equal, and like Pompey acknowledge no Superiour. Be coverous of thine owne Honour, andhold anothers glory as thy injury. Renounce humilitie as an Herefie in reputation, and meeknesse as the worst disease of a true brednoble Spirit; Disparage worth in all but in thy selfe, and make anothers infamy a forl to magnifie thy glory. Let such as have no reason to be proud, be humbled of necessity, and let them that have no parts to value, be despondent. But as for thee, thy Cards are good, and ha-

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ving skill enough to play thy hopefull Game, vie boldly, con-

quer and triumph.

But stay my soule, the Trump is yet unturn'd, boast not too soon, nor callit a faire day till night, the turning of a hand may make such alterations, in thy statering fortunes, that all thy glorious expectations may chance to end in losse, and unsuspected ruine. That God which thrust that Babylonian Prince from his Imperial Throne, to graze with beasts, hath said,

The Lord will destroy the house of the proud, Prov. 15.25.

Prov. II.

When pride cometh, then cometh shame, but with the lowly is wisedome.

Jer. 11. 15.

Heare ye, and give eare, and be not proud, for the Lord hath spoken.

Efay

Efay 2. 12.

The day of the Lord of Hosts shall be upon every one that is proud, and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up, and he shall be brought low.

Prov. 16. 5.

Every one that is proud in heart is abomination to the Lord.

St. James.

God rejetteth the proud, and give the grace to the simple.

Isidor. Hispal.

Pride made Satan fall from the big best heaven, therefore they that pride themselvs in their virtues, imitate the Devill; and fall more dangerously, because they aspire and climbe to the highest pitch, from whence is the greatest fall.

His Soliloguy.

114 Greg. Mor.

Pride grows stronger in the root whilft it braves it selfe with presumpenous advances, yet the higher it climbes the lower it fals: for he that beightens himselfe by his owne pride, is alwaies destroyed by the judgement of God.

His Soliloguy.

TOw wert thou muffled O my foule! How were thine eies blinded with the corruption of thine owne heart ! When I beheld my felfe by my own light, I feem'd a glorious thing; My funne knew no eclipse. and all my imperfections were gilded over with vain-glory : But now the day-spring from above hath shind upon my heart, and the diviner light hath driven away those fog-

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gy mists; I finde my selfe another thing: My Diamonds are all rarn'd Pebbles, and my glory is turnd to shame. O my deceived foule, how great a darknesse was thy light? The thing that feemd to glorious, and sparkled in the night, by day appeares but rotten wood : and that bright Glow-worme, that in darknesse out shined the Chrysolne, is by this new-found light no better then a crawling worm : How infeparable O my soule is pride and fly which like Hippocrates twins still live and die together? It blinds the eye, befools the judge. ment, knows no superiours, hates equals, disdaines inferiours, the wifemans fcorne, and the fooles Idoll; Renounce it O my foule, left thy God renounce thee; He that bath threatned to refit the proud, hathpromised to give grace

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to the humble and what true Repentance speaks, free mercy heares and crownes.

His Prayer.

God the fountain of all true O Glory, and the giver of all free grace, whose Name is onely honourable, and whose worker are onely glorious, that shewest thy wayes to be meek, and takeft compassion apon an humble spirit, that hatelf the presence of a lofty eye, and destroyest the proud in the imaginations of their hearts, vouchsale, O Lord, thy gracious eare and hear the fighing of a contrite heart : I know O God the quality of my fincan look for nothing but the extremiey of thy wrath : I know, the crook-

crookednesse of my condition can expect nothing but the Fornace of thy indignation; I know, the insolence of my corrupted nature can hope for nothing but the execution of thy judgements: Yet Lord, I know withall, thouart a gracious God, of evill repenting thee and flow to wrath; I know thy nature and property is to flew compaffion; apt to conceive but readier to forgive: I know thou takest no pleasure in destruction of a finner, but rather that hee should repent and live : In confidence and full affurance whereof I am here proffrate on my bended knees, and with an humbleheart : Nor doe I presse into thy holy presence, trusting in my own merits, left thou shouldest deale by me as I have dealt by others, but being encouraged by thy gracious invitation,

and heavy laden with the burthen of my firnes. I come to thee O Cod, who art the refuge of a wounded foule, and the Sanstuary of a broken spirit : Forgive, O God, forgive me, what is pall recalling, and make me circumspect for the time to come : Open mine eyes that I may fee how vaine a thing I am, and how polluted from my very birth : Give me an inlight of my owne corruptions, that I may truly know, and loath my felte. Take from me all vaine glory, and felf love, and make me carelette of the worlds applause : Endue me with an humble heart, and take this haughty spirit from me; Give me atrue di covery of my owne merits, that I may truely tear and tremble at thy judgements. Let not the worlds contempt deject me, nor the difrespects of man di may

The Covetous mans care. 119

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an ay dismay me. Take from mee O God a scornfull eye and curbmy tongue that speaks presumptuous things: Plant in my heart a brotherly love, and cherish in me a charitable affection; Possesse my my soule with patience O God, and establish my heart in the seare of thy name, that being humbled before thee in the meeknesse of my spirit, I may be exalted by thee through the freenesse of thy Grace, and crowned with thee in the Kingdome of Glory.

The Covetons Mans care.

Beleive me, the Times are hard and dangerous: Charity is grown cold, and friends uncomfortable; an empty Purse is full of sorrow, and hollow Bags make

120. The covetous mans care.

a heavy heart : Poverty is a civill Peffslence, which frights away both friends and kindred, and leaves us to a Lord have mercy upon as : It is a ficknes very catching and infectious, and more commonly abhord then cured: The best Antidote against it is Angelico, and Providence, and the best Cordiall is Aurum potabile. Gold-taking fasting is an approved soveraigne. Debis are ill humours, and turne at last to dangerous ob ?rullions ; Lending is a meer consumption of the radicall humour, and if confumed, brings a patient to nothing. Let others trust to Courtiers promifes, to friends performances, to Princes favours; Give me a Toy call'd Gold give me a thing call'd Mony. O bleffed Mammon, how extreamly fweet is thy all-commanding prefence to my thriving foule

The Covetous mans care, 121

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ioule! In banishment thou art mydeare companion; In captivity, thou art my precious ranfome. In trouble and vexation thou are my dainty reft. In fick nes, thou art my bealth; In griefe, my only joy; in all extremity, my only truft : Veriue must vaile to thee; Nay Grace it felf not relisht with thy sweetnes would even displeas the righteous palates of the fons of men. Come then my foul, advile, contrive, project: Go, compasse Sea, and Land : leave no exploit untryed, no path untrod, no time unipent; afford thine eyes no fleep, thy head no reft: Neglect thy ravenous belly, uncloath thy backe; deceive, betray, sweare and forsweare to compasse such a friend, If thou be bale in birth, 'twill make thee bonorable; If weak in power, it will make thee formidable: Are thy

132 The covetous mans care.

thy friends few ? It will make them numerous. Isthy cause bad? It will make thee Advocates. True wifedom is an excellent help. in case it bend this way; and learming is a gentile Ornament if not too chargeable : yet by your leave they are but estates for term of life: But everlasting Gold, if well advantag'd will not onely blette thy dayes, but thy furviving children from generation to g neration. Come come et others fill their braines with deare bought wit, turn their pence in o expence all charny, and Hore their botomes with unprofitable piery, let them lofe all to fave their maginary conferences, and begger them elves at home to be thought honeft abroad; Fill thou thy bagges and barnes, and ay upio many yeers and take they rest.

But:

But O my foule, what follows, me on my knees.

Thou foole, this night will I take thy foul from thee, Luk. 12,20.

Matth. 6. 24.

Te cannot serve God and Mammon.

Job 20. 15.

He hath swallowed down riches, and he shall womit them up again: God shall cast them out of his belig.

Prov. 15.17.

He that is greedy of gaine troubles his own honse, but he that hateth gifts shall live.

2 Pet. 2. 3.

Through coverousnesse they shall with feigned words make mershandsze of you, whose judgemext now of a long time ling, eth not, and whose damuation slumbresh not.

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Nilm

Nilus in Paranes.

Woe to the covetons, for his riches for ake him, and hell fire takes him.

Augustine

O thou covetous man, why dost thou treasure up such hidden mischiefe? why dost thou dote on the Image of the King stamped on coine, and hatest the Image of God that shines in men?

Augustine.

The riches which thou treasurest up are lost, those thou charitably bestowest, are truly thine.

His Soliloguy.

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That thinks thou now my soule? If the judgement of holy men may not inform thee, let the judgements of thy

thy angry God enforce thee: Weigh thy owne carnall effects. ons with the facred Oracles of heaven, and light and darknesse are not more contrary. What thou approveft, thy God condemnes; What thou desirest, thy God forbids : Now my foul, if Mammon be God, follow him; if God be God , adhere to him ; Thou caust not serve God and Mammon. If thy conscience feele the hook, nibble no longer. Many sinnes leave thee in the way, this followes thee to thy lives and; the root of evill, the canker of all goodnesse: It blinds Justice, poysons Charity, strangles Conscience, bestaves the affections, betrayes friendship, breaks all relations: It is a root of the Devils owne planting; pluck it up : Think not that a pleasure which God hath threatned; not that

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that a blessing which heaven hath cursed: Devoure not that which thou or thy heire must vomit up: Be no longer possest with such a Devill, but cast him out: and if he be too strong, weaken him by Fasting, and exorcize him by Prayer.

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His Prayer.

God that art the fulnesse of all riches, and the magazeen of all treasure in the enjoyment of whose favour the smalest morfell is a rich inheritance, and the coursest poulse is a large portion; without whose blessing the greatest plenty enriches not, and the highest diet nourishes not: How have I (an earthworm and no man) fixt my whole heart upon this transitory world, and neglected

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lested thee the only defirable good! I blush O Lord, to confesse the basenesse of my life, and am utterly asham'd of my own foolishnesse: I have placed my affections upon the nasty Rubbish of this world, and have flighted the inestimable Pearl of my Salvation; I have wallowd in the mire of my inordinate defires, and refused to bee washt in the freams of thy compassion; I have of put my confidence in the faithen fulnefle of my fervant, and have nt doubted the providence of thee or- my gratious Father; I have ferhe | ved unrighteous Mammon with n; greedinesse, and have preferred a- droffe and dung before the pearly he gates of New Jerusalem. Thou ow haft promised to be all in all to no those that fear thee, and not to on fail the foul that trufts in thee; g- but I refused thy gratious offer,

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and put my confidence in the vanity of the Creature : But gratious God, to whom true Repen. rance never comes unfeasonable, that findest an eare when finners finde a tongue regard the contrition of a bleeding heart, and withdraw not thy mercy from a ri pen ive foule. Give mee new thoughts O God, and with thy holy Spirit new mould my defires: inform my will and fandify my affections, that they may rellish thy sweetnesse with a full delight : Create in me O God a spirituall sense, that I may take pleasure in things that are above: Sive mee a contented thankful-Give mee a contented thankfulje nesse for what I have, that I may neither in poverty fortake g thee, nor in plenty forget thee; Arm me with a continual patience, that I may chearfully put my trust in thy providence: Moderate

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Moderate my care for momentary things, that I may use the world as if I used it not : Let not the loffe of any earthly good too much deject me, left I should finne with my lips, and charge thee foolishly : Give me a charitable hand O God, and fill my heart with brotherly compassion, thy that I may chearfully exchange the corruptible treasure of this world into the incorruptible nay riches of the world to come, and proving a faithfull fleward in God thy spirituall houshold, I may ake ve; give up my account with joy, and be made partaker of thy eternall joy in the Kingdome of thy glory.

The Self. lovers Self-fraud.

Od hath required my heart, Land he shall have it : God hath commanded truth in the inward parts, and he shall be obeyed : My foule shall prayse the Lord, and all that is within me. and I will ferve him in the Grength of my defires. And in common Cales the tongues profession of his Name is no lesse then necessary: But when it lies upon a life, upon the faving of a levely bood, upon the flat undoing of a reputation, the case is altered: My life is deare, my faire possessions pretious, and my repuration is the very Apple of mine eye. To fave so great a stake, me thinks equivocation is but veniall, if a finne. 'f the true loyalty of mine heart stands found

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to my Religion and my God; my well-informed Conscience tels me that in such extremities my frighted tongue may take the priviledge of a Salvo or a mentall refervation, if not in the expression of a faire compliance. What? shall the reall breach of a holy Sabbath, dedicated to Gods highest glory, be tolerated for the welfare of an Oxe? May that breach be fer upon the score of merey, and commended above facrifice for the lavegard of an Affe? And may I not dispence with a bare lippe deniall of my urg'd Religion for the necessary preservation of the threatned life of a. man? for the faving of the whole lively hood and subsistence of a Christian? What? Shall I perish for the want of food, and die a Martyr to that foolish confcience which forbids me to rub the eares

eares of a little standing Corne? Jacob could purchase his fick fathers bleffing with a down-right lie, and may I not diffemble for a life? The young mans great possossions taught his timerous tongue to shrink from and decline his hearts profession, and who could blame him? Come, if thou freely give thy house, canft thou in conscience be denied a hiding room for thy protection? The Syrian Captain (he whose heart was fixt on his now firme resolv'd, and true devotion) refervd the house of Rimmon for his necessary attendance, and yet went in peace. Peter (upon the rock of whose confession, the Church was grounded) to fave his liberty, with a falle, nay with a perjur'd tongue; nay more, at fuch a time when as the Lord of life (in whose behalf he drew his (word)

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fword) was questiond for his innocent life, denied his Master; and shall I be so great an unthrist of my blood, my life, to lose it for a meere lippe-deniall of that Religion which now is settled and needs no blood to seale it?

But flay! my conscience checks me, there's a judgement thunders; Hark;

He that denies me before men, him will I deny before my Father which is in heaven, Matth. 10.32.

2 Tim. 3. 1, 2.

Know that in the latter dayes perillous times shall come:

For men shall be lovers of their owne selves.

Ifai. 45.23.

I have (worn by my selfe, the word is gone out of my mouth in G righte-

righteousnesse, and shall not returne, that unto me every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall sweare.

Rom. 10. 10.

With the heart man beleeveth unto righteousnesse, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.

Luke 9.26.

Whosoever shall be ashamed of me and my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in Glory.

Augustine.

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The love of God and the world are two different things if the love of this world dwell in thee, the love of God for fakes thee; renounce that, and receive this, it's fit the more noble love should have the best place and acceptance. The-

His Soliloquy.

135

Theoph.

is not enough onely to beleeve with the heart, for God will have us confesswith our mouth; every one that confesses Christ is God, shall sinde Christ professing to the Father that that man is a faithfull servant; but those that deny Christ shall receive (that fearful doom Nescio vos) I know you note

His Soliloguy.

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My foule, in such a time as this when the civill Sword is warme with slaughter, and the wasting kingdom welters in her blood, wouldst thou not give thy life to ransome her from ruine? Is not the God of beaven and earth worth many kingdomes? Is thy welfare more confiderable.

136 His Soliloguy.

fiderable then his glory ? dar'ft thou deny him for thy owne owne ends, that denied thee nothing for thy good? Is a poore clod of earth we call Inheritance, prizable with his greatnesse? Or a puffe of breath we call life, valuable with his honour, in comparison of whom the very Angels are impure ? Blush O my soule at thy owne guilt : He that accounted his blood, his life not worth the keeping to ransome thee a wretch, loft by thy own rebellion, deferves he not the abatement of a luft, to keep him from a new crucifying? My soule, if Religion binde thee not, if judgements terrefie thee not, if naturall affection incline thee not, yetlet common reason perswade thee to love him above a trifle, that loved thee above his life: And thou that halt so often denied him, de-

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denie nie thy selfe for ever, and he will own thee; repent and hee'l pardon thee pray to him and he will heare thee

His Prayer.

God, whose glory is the O end of my creation, and whose free mercy is the cause of my redemption, that gavest thy Sonne, thy onely Sonne to die for me, who else had perished in the common deluge of thy wrath; What shall I render for fo great a mercy? What thankfulnesse shall I returne for so infinite a love ? Alas the most that I can do is nothing, the best that I can prefent is worfe then nothing, finne : Lord, if I yeeld my body for a facrifice, I offer nothing but a lumpe of filth, and loathfome

some putrefaction; or if I give my foul in contribution, I yeeld thee nothing but thy Image quitedefaced and polluted with my lufts; or if I spend the strength of the whole man, and with both heart and tongue confesse and magni. fie thy Name; how can the prailes of my finfull lips, that breath from such a fink, be pleasing to thee? But Lord, fince thou art pleased in thy well-pleasing Son to accept the poverty of my weak endeavours, fend downe thy holy Spirit into my heart, clente it from the filth of my corruptions, and make it fit to praise thee: Lord open thou my mouth, and my lips shall shew forth thy praise Put a new fong intomy mouth, and I will praise theeand confesse thee all day long; I will not hide thy goodnesse in my mouth but will be showing forth zhy

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thy truth, and thy falvation; Let thy praises bemy honour, and let thy goodnesse be the subject of my undaunted Song. Let neither putation, wealth, nor life be pretious to me in comparison with thee: Let not the worlds derision daunt mee nor examples of infirmity deject me : Give mee courage and wiledome to stand for thy honour; O make mee worthy, able and willing to fuffer for thy Name. Lord teach me to deny my felfe, and to refift the motions of my owne corruptions; create in mee O God a fingle heart, that I may love the Lord lefus infincerity : remember not O Lord the finnes of my feare, and pardon the hypocrifie of my felf-love. Wash me from the staines and guilt of this my hainous offence, and deliver me from this fearfull judgement thou halt threat.

threatned in thy Word : Convince all the Arguments of my unfanctified wit, whereby I have become an advocate to my finhe. Grant that my life may adors my profession, and make my tongue an instrument of thy glory. Affilt me O God that I may praise thy goodnesse, and declare thy wonders among the children of men : Strengthen my faith that it may truit Thee; and let my works fo fhine that men may praise thee; That my heart be-leeving unto righteousnesse, and my tongue confessing to falvation, I may be acknowledg'd by thee here, and glorified by thee in the Kingdome of glory.

The Worldly Mans Verdour.

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For ought I see the case is eprayes and him that does not pray; with him that sweares and him that feares an oath : I fee no difference; if any, those that they call the wicked have the advantage. Their crops are even as faire, their flocks as numerous as theirs that weare the ground with their religious knees, and fast their bodies to a skelliton; nay in the use of bleffings (which only makes them to) they farre exceed; they terme me reprobate, and stile me unregenerate: 'Tis true, I eate my labours with a jolly heart; drinke frolick cups; fweeten my paines with timebeguiling sports, make the best ad-

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142 The worldly mans

variage of my owne, pray when I thinke on't, sweare when they urge me, hear Sermons at my leafure; follow the lusts of my owne eyes, and take the pleasure of my own wayer; and yet, God be thanked, my Barnes are furnisht, my sheep fand found, my Cattle strong for labour, my pastures rich and flourishing my body healthfull, and my bags are full: whilft they that are so pure, and make such confeience of their wayes, that run to. Sermons, figge to Lectures, pray shrice a day by the houre, hold faith and treth prophane, and drinking bealths a finne, do often finde leane harvests, eafie flocks, and emptie purses : Let them be godly that can live on Aire and Faith; and eaten up by Zeale, can whine themselves into an Hospie. rell; or bleffe their lips with charitable

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ritable forapps. If godlinesse have this reward, to have short meals for long prayers, weake estates for strong faiths, and good consciences upon such bad conditions, let them boast of their pennyworths, and let me be wicked still, and take my chance as falls. Let me have judgement to discover a profitable Farme, and wit to take it at an easie Rem, and Gold to flock it in a liberall manner, and skill to manage it to my best advantage, and luck to finde a good encrease, and providence to husband wifely what I gaine, I feek no further, and I wish no more. Husbandry and Religion are two severall occupations, and look two feverall wayes, and he is the onely wife man can reconcile them.

But flay, my soule, I fear thy reckoning failes thee; If thou halt judgement to discover; wit, to bargaine; Gold, to employ; skill, to manage; providence to dispose; canst thou command the Clouds to drop? or if a wet feafon meet thy Harvest, and with open fluces overwhelme thy hopes; canfl thou let downe the floodgates, and flop the watry Flux? Canst thou command the Sunne to Shine? Canst thou forbid the Mildewes, or controll the breath of the Malignant Eaft? Is not this Gods fole Prerogative? And hath not that God faid,

When the workers of iniquity doe flourish, it is that they shall bee destroyed for over, Pial. 92.13.

Job. 21.7.
Wherefore do the wicked live, be-

come old, ye are mighty in power?
8. Their feed is establish in their fight, and their off-spring before their eyes.

9. Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the wrath of Ged upon

them.

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10. Their Bull gendereth, and faileth not, their Cow calveth, and casteth not her Calfe.

11. They fend forth their little ones like a flock, and their chil-

dren daunce.

12. They take the Timbrell, and the Harp, and rejoyce at the sound of the Organ.

13. They spend their dayes in wealth, and in a moment they go

downe to the Grave.

Nil. in Paranel.

Woo he to him that pursues empty and

and fading pleasures: because in ashort time he fats, and pampers himself as a Calstothe slaughter. Bernard.

There is no misery more true and reall; then false and counterfeit pleasure.

Hierom.

It's not onely difficult, but impossible to have heaven here and hereafter: To live in sensuall lusts, and to attain spirituall blisse; to passe from one paradise to another, to be a mirrour of felicity in both worlds, to shine with glorious rayes both in this globe of earth, and the orbe of heaven.

His Soliloguy.

How sweet a feast is, till the reckening come! A fair day ends often in a cold night, and the road

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us b. road that's pleasant, ends in Hell: If worldly pleasures had the promile of continuance, prosperity were fome comfort; but in this necessary vicifitude of good and evill, the prolonging of adversity sharpens it : It is no common thing, my foule, to enjoy two heavens : Dives found it in the present, Lazarus in the future: Hath thy encreasemet with no damage? thy reputation with no scandall? thy pleasure, with no croffe? thy prosperity, with no adversity? Presume not : Gods checks are symptomes of his mercy: but his filence is the Harbinger of a judgement. Be circumspest, and provident my foule : Haft thoua faire Summer? provide for a hard Winter: The worlds River ebbes alone; it flowes not : Hee that goes merrily with the fream. must bale up : Flatter thy felfe there:

therefore no longer in thy profperous fin, O my deluded soule! but be truly sensible of thy own presumption: Look seriously into thy approaching danger, and humble thy self with true contri-

His Prayer.

tion: If thou procure fowre Herbs, God will provide his Passeover.

How foolish are his Counsels, when he plots without thee! How wild his progresse, when he wanders from thee! How miserable till he returne unto thee! How his wit sailes! How his wisedome falters! How his wealth melts! How his providence is besool'd! and how his soule beslav'd! Thou strik'st off the Chariot wheeles

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of his Inventions, and he is perplext: Thou confoundest the Babel of his imaginations, and he is troubled: Thou croffett his defignes that he may feare thee, and thou stopst him in his wayes that he may know thee. How mercifull art thou O God, and in thy very judgements Lord how gracious! Thou mightft have ftruck me into the lowest pit as eafily as on these bended knees, and yes been justified in my confusion: But thou hast threatned like a gentle father, as loth to punish thy ungracious childe. Thou knowest the crooked thoughts of man are vaine, still turning point to their contrivers ruine; Thou faw'st me wandring in the maze of death, while I with violence purfued my owne deftruction : But thou hast warn'd me by thy facred Word, and took me off

off that I might live to praise thee. Thou art my confidence O God; Thou art the rock, the rocke of my falvation. Thy Word fhall be my guide, for all thy paths are Mercy and Truth : Lordwhen I look upon my former worldlinesse, I utterly abhorremy conversation: threngthen mee with thy affiliance, that I may lead a new life; make me more and more fensible of my own condition, and perfect thou the good worke thou haft begun inme: In all my designes be thou my Counsellour, that I may prosper in my undertakings. In all my actions be thou my guide, that I may keep the path of thy Comandements, Let all my own devises come to nought, lest I presume upon the arme of flesh; let not my wealth encrease without thy bleffing, left I be fatted

up against the day of slaughter: Have thou a hand in all my just imployments, then prosper thou the worke of my hands, O prosper thou my handy-worke: That little I enjoy, confirme it to me, and make it mine, who have no interest in it till thou owne me as thy Child: Then shall my soule rejoyce in thy favours, and magnific thy name for all thy mercies: Then shall my lips proclaim thy loving kindnesse, and sing thy praises for ever and ever.

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The lascivious mans Heaven.

Can flesh and blood bee so unnaturall to sorget the Lawes of Nature? Can blowing youth immure it selfe within the seey walls of Vestall Chastity? Can lusty diet, and mollicious rest bring

bring forth no other fruits, but faint defires, rigid thoughts, and Phlegmatick conceits? should we be flocks and flones, and (having active fouls) turne altoge. ther passives? Must we turne Ancherites and spend our dayes in Caves, and Hermitages, and fmother up our pretious hours in sloyfterd folly, and recluse devotion? Can rofy cheeks, can ruby lips, can fnowy brefts and sparkling eyes, prefent their beauties and perfections to the sprightly view of young mortality, and must we stand like Statues without sense or motion? Can strict Religion impose such cruell tasks and even impossible commands upon the raging thoughts ofher unhappy votaries, as to withfland and contradict the instinct, and very principles of Nature? Can faire-pretending Piety be so barbarous

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barous to condemn us to the flames of our affections, and make us Martyrs to our own defires? Is't not enough to conquer the rebellious actions of imperious flesh, but wee must manacle her hands, darken her eyes; nay worse, restrain the freedom of her very thoughts? Can full perfection be expected here? Or can our work bee perfett in this vale of imperfection? This were a life for Angels, but a task too hard for frail, for transitory man. Come, come, wee are but men, but flesh and blood, and our born frailties cannot grapple with such potent tyranny. What Nature and Necessity requires us to doe, is veniall, being done. Come, strive no more against so strong a fream, but take thy fill of beauty; solace thy wanton heart with amorous contemplations, cloathe

cloathe all thy words with courtly Rheterick, and foften thy lips with Dialetts of Love ; Surfet thy selfe with pleasure, and melt thy passion into warm delights; Walk into Natures universall Bower, and pick what Flower does most surprize thine eye; drink of all waters, but bee tied to none. Spare neither cost nor paines, to compasse thy Desires: Enjoy varieties; emparadise thy foule in fresh Delights. The change of pleasure makes thy pleasure double: Ravish thy ienses with perpetuall choyce, and glut thy foule with all the delicates of Love.

But hold! there is a voyce that whispers in my troubled eare, a voyce that blanks my thoughts, and stops the course of my resolves; a voyce that chils the

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the bosom of my soul, and fils me with amazement: Hark,

They which doe such things, shall not inherit the kingdom of God, Gal. 5.21.

Exodus 20 14

Thou shalt not commit Adultery.

Matthew 5. 28.

Whosoever looks upon a woman to lust after her, hach committed Adultery with her already in his heart

Rom. 13. 13

Let us walk honestly as in the day, not in rioting, nor in drunkennesse, nor in chambering, nor in wantonnesse

1 Peter 2. 11.

Abstain from fleshly lusts, which warre against the soule

Nilus in Paræn.

Woe be to the fornicator and adulterer, for his garment is defiled and and spotted, and the heavenly Bridegroom casts him out from

his chast nuptials.

A world of presumptuous and haynous offences do arife and spring from the filthy fountain of adulterous lust, whereby the gate of heaven is shut, and poore man excluded from God.

S Gregor. Mor.

Hence the flesh lives in Sensuall delights for a moment, but the immortall soule perisheth for ever

His Soliloquy.

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I Ust is a Brand of originall fire, raked up in the Embers of flesh and blood; uncovered by a naturall inclination, blown by corrupt communication, quencht with fasting and humiliation: It is raked up in the bost, uncovered

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in the most, and blown in thee, O my luftfull foule; O turn thy eare from the pleadings of Nature, and make a Covenant with thine eyes: Let not the language of Delilah inchant thee, left the hands of the Philistims surprize thee: Review thy past pleasures, with the charge and paines thou hadft to compaffe them, and shew me, where's thy pennyworth? Foresee what punishments are prepar'd to meet thee, and tellmee, what's thy purchase? Thou hatt barrerd away thy God for a luft; fold thy Everning for a Trifle; If this bargain may not bee recald by teares, diffolve thee O my foule into a Spring of waters: If not to bee revert with price, reduce thy whole effate into a Sackcloth, and an Ash tub. Thou whose I iver hath scorcht in the flames of kuft, humble thy heart

in the ashes of Repentance: and as with Esau thou hast sold thy Birthright for Broth, so with Jacob wrestle by prayer till thou get a blessing.

His Prayer.

Od, before whose face the Angels are impure; before whose clear omniscience all A&ions appear, to whom the very fecrets of the hearts are open; I here acknowledge to thy glery and my shame, the filthinesse and vile impurity of my nature : Lord I was filthy in my very conception, and in filthines my mothers wombe enclosed me, brought forth in filthinesse, and filthy in my very innocency, filthy in the motions of my flesh, and filthy in the apprehensions of my soul: my words

words all cloath'd with filthineffe, and in all my actions filthy and unclean, in my inclination filthy, and in the whole course of my life nothing but a continued filthinesse. Wash me O God, and make me clean, cleanse me from the filthinesse of my corruption; Purge me O Lord with Hyffop, and create a clean heart within me : Correct the vagrant motions of my flesh, and quench the fiery darts of Satan; Let not the Law of my corrupted members rule mee ; O let concupiscence have no dominion over me: Give me courage to fight against my lusts, and give my weaknesse ftrength to overcome; make sharpe my sword against this body offinne, but most against my Dalilah, my bosome sin. Deliver me from the tyranny of temptation, or give me power to

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fubdue it : Confine the liberty of my wanton appetite, and give me temperance in a fober diet : Grant me a heart to strive with thee in Prayer, and hopefull patience to attend thy leifure; Keep me from the habit of an idle life, and close mine eares against corrupt communication; Set thou a watch before my lips, that all my words may favour of fobriety: Preferve me from the vanity and pride of life, that I may walke blamelesse in my conversation; Protect me from the sellowship of the unclean, and from all such as are of evill report. Let thy grace O God be sufficient for me, to protect my feule frem the buffetings of Saran; Make me industrious and diligent in my calling, lest the enen y get advantage over mee: In all my temptations let mee have recourse to thee. Be thou

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my refuge when I call upon thee; Forgive O God the sinnes of my youth, O pardon the multitudes of my secret sinnes: Encrease my hatred to my former life, and strengthen my resolution for the time suture; Hear me O God, and let the words of my mouth be alwaies acceptable to thee, O God my strength and my Redeemer.

The Sabbath-breakers Prophanation.

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He glittering Prince that fits upon his regall, and imperial Throne, and the ignoble Peafant that fleeps within his fordid house of Thatch are both alike to God: An Ivory Temple and a Church of Clay are prized H 2 alike

alike by him : The flesh of Buls, and the perfumes of My he and Caffia imoak his Altars with an equall pleasure : And does he make such difference of dayes? Is he that was fo weary of the New-Moones, fo taken with the Sun to tie his Sabbath to that only day? The tenth in tithes is any one in ten, and why the feventh day not any one in feven? We fanctifie the day, the day not us: But arewe Jewes ? Are we Hill bound to keepe a legall Sabbath in the ffrienesse of the Letter? Have the Gentiles no priviledge by vertue of Messiahs comming, or has the Evangelicall Sabbath immunities? The service done the day's discharged, my libertie restored; And if I meet my profits, or my pleasures then, I'le give them entertainment. Ifbufine Te call me to account, I dare afford

afford a carefull eare. Or if my sports invite me, I'le entertaine them with a cheerfull heart : I'le goe to Mattens with as much devotion as my neighbour, I'le make as low obey sance, and as just responds as any; but as soon as Evenfong's ended, my Churchdevotion and my Pfalter shall san Sifie my Pue till the next Sabbath call; Were it no more for an old ensteme take, then for the good I finde in Sabbaths, that Ceremony might as well be ipared. It is a day of Reft : And what's a Reft ? A relaxation from the toile of labour : And what is labour but a painfull exercise of the fraile body ? But where the exercise admits no toile, there Relaxation makes no Rest: What labour is it for the worldly man to compaffe Sea and Land to accomplish his defires?

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164 His extirpation.

What labour is it for the impatient lover to measure Hellespont with his widened armes to haften his delight? What labour for the youth to number musick with their sprightly paces? Where pleasure's reconcil d to labour, labour is but an active rest : Why should the Sabbath then, a day of reft, divorce thee from those delights that makethy Reft? Afflict their soules that please, my rest shall be what most conduces to my hearts delight. Two houres will vent more prayers then I shal need, the rest remaines for pleafure.

Onscience, why start's thou?

A judgement strikes me from the mouth of heaven, and saith.

Whosoever doth any worke on my Subbath, his souleshall be cut off, Exod. 31.14. Exod.

Exod. 20.

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Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day; fix dayes shalt then labour, and doe all that then hast to do, but the seventh day, &c.

Exod. 31. 14.

Te shall keep my Sabbath, for it is bely unto you.

Exod. 31.13.

Verily my Sabbaths thou shalt keep, for this is a sign betwixt me and you, throughout your Generations.

Luke 23.56.

And they returned and prepared fpices, and syntments, and rested on the Sabbath day according to the Commandement.

Gregor.

Wee ought upon the Lords day to rest from bodily labour, and wholly to addict our selves to prayers, that what seever hath bath been done amisse the weake before, may upon the day of our Lords resurrection be expiated and purged by servent prayers.

Cyr. Alex.

Sin is the storehouse of death and misery, it kindles stames for it's dearest friends. Therefore whosever when he should rest from sin, busieth himselfe in the dead and fruitlesse workes of wickednesse, and renouncing all piety, lusts after such things as will bring him into eternall destruction, and everlasting stames, justly deserves to die and perish with the damned, because when he might have enjoyed a pious rest, be laboured to run headlong to his own destruction.

His

His Soliloguy.

M Y foul, how hast thou pro-phaned that day thy God hath fanctified! How hast thou encroach'd on that which heaven hath fet apart! If thy impatience cannot act a Sabbath twelve hours, what happine flecant thou expect in a perpetuall Sabbath? Is fixe dayes too little for thy felfe, and two hours too much for thy God? O my foule, how dost thou prize temporalls beyond eternalls? Is it equall that God who gave thee a body, and fixe dayes to provide for it, should demand one day of of thee, and be denied it ? How liberall a receiver art thou, and how miserable a Requiter! But know my foule, his Sabbaths are the Apple of his eye : He that hath power to vindicate the breach

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breach of it, hath threatned judgements to the breaker of it. The God of mercy that hath mitigated the rigour of it for charity fake, will not diminish the honour of it for prophanesse sake : forget not then my foule to remember his Sabbaths, and remember not to forget his judgements, left he forget to remember thee in Mercy : What thou half neglected, bewaile with conerition, and what thou hast repenred, fortake with resolution, and what thou haft refolved firengthen with devotion.

His Prayers

Eternall, just, and all discerning Judge; in thy selfe, glorious; in thy Son, gracious; who tryest without a witnesse, and. u

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and condemnest without a jury; O! I confesse my very actions have berrayed me, thy word bath brought in evidence against me, my own conscience hath witnesfed against me, and thy judgement hath past sentence against me: And what have I now to plead but mine owne misery, and whether should that misery flee. but to the God of mercy? And fince O Lord the way to mercy. is to leave my felse, I here disclaim all interest in my selfe, and utterly renounce my felfe: I that was created for thy glory, have dishonoured thy Name; I that was made for thy fervice, have prophaned thy Sabbaths; I have fleighted thy Ordinances, and turned my back upon thy Sanchuary; I have neglected thy Sacraments, abused thy Word, despis'd thy Ministers and despis'd their:

their ministery; I have some into thy Courts with an unprovided heart, and have drawn near with uncircumcifed lips ; And Lord I know thou art a jealous God, and most severe against all such as violate thy Rest; The glory of thy Name is pretious to thee, and thine honour is as the Apple of thine eye; But thou O God that art the God of Hofts, haft published and declared thy selfe the Lord of mercy; The conftitution of thy Sabbath was a work of time, but Lord thy mercy is from all eternity; I that have broke thy Sabbaths, do here prefeat thee with a broken heart; thy hand is not shortned that thou canst not heale, nor thy ear deafned that thou can't not hear; Stretch forth thy hand O God and heal my wounds. Bow down thine eare O Lord, and heare my Prayers;

Prayers; Alter the fabrick of my finfull heart, and make it tender of thy glory; Make me ambitious of thy service, and let thy Sabbaths be my whole delight; Give me a holy reverence of thy Word, that it may prove a light to my steps and a Lanthorn to my feet. Endue my heart with Charity and Faith that I may finde a comfort in thy Sacraments. Bleffe thou the Ministers of thy facred Word, and make them holy in their lives, found in their doctrine & laborious in their callings. Preferve the universall Church in these distracted times; give her peace, unity, & uniformity, purge her of all Schilme, error and fuper-Aition; Let the Kings daughter be all glorious within, and let thine eyes take pleasure in her beauty, that being honor'd here to be a member of her Militant, I may

bee glorified with her triumphant.

The Censorious mans Crimination.

TKnow there is much of the feed of the Serpent in him by his very lookes, if his words betray'd him not; He hath earen the Egge of the Cockatrice, and furely he remaineth in the state of perditien; He is not within the Covenant, and abideth in the Gall of buternefe; His fludied Prayers show him to be a high Malig. nant, and his Jefu wor hip concludes him popichly affected; He comes not to our private meetings, nor contributes a penny to the cause: Hecries up learning, and the book of Common-prayer, and takes no armes to haften Reformation;

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formation : He feares God for his. owne ends, for the ipirit of Antichrist is in him. His eyes are full of Adulteries, and goes a whoring after his owne inventions : He can hear an oath from his superiours without reproof, and the heathenish Gods named without spitting in his face : Wherefore my foule deteffeth him, and I will have no conversation with him; for what fellowship hath light with darkneffe, or the pure inheart with the unclean? Sometimes he is a Publican, formtimes a Pharisee, and alwayes an Hypoerite; He railes against the Altar as loud as we, and yet he eringes and makes an Idol of the name of Jefus; he is quick-fighted to the infirmities of the Saints, and in his heart rejoyceth at our failings; he honours not a preaching ministery, and too much leans

174 The Censorious mans &c.

to a Church-government; hee paints devotion on his face, whilft pride is stampt within his heart : he places fanctity in the walls of a Steeple-house, and adores the Sacrament with his popish knee; His Religion is a Weathercock, and turns breit to every blast of wind. With the pure he feems pure, and with the wicked he will joyne in fellowship; A sober language is in his mouth but the porfon of Aipes is under his tongue : His workes conduce not to edification, nor are the motions of his heart fanetified; He adores great ones for preferment, and speaks too partially of authority : He is a Laodicean in his faith, a Nicolaitane in his workes, a Pharifee in his difquife, a rank Papist in his heart, and I thanke my God I am not as this man.

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But stay my soule, take heed whilst thou judgest another, lest God judge thee; how com'st thou so expert in anothers heart, being so often deceived in thy own? A Saulto day, may prove a Paul to morrow; Take heed whilst thou wouldst seem religious thou appear not uncharitable; and whilst thou judgest man, thou be not judg'd of God, who saith, ludge not, lest ye be judged, Mat.

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Iohn 7.24.

Indge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgement.

Rom. 14. 10.

But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost theu set at naught thy brother? We shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ.

1 Cor 4.5.

Indge nothing before the time, un-

till the Lord come who will both bring to light the hidden things of darknesse, and will make manifest the counsell of the heart.

Rom. 14.13.

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Let us not therefore judge one another any more, but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling blocke, or an accusation to fall in his brothers way:

Pfal. 50. 6.

God is judge himselfe.

St. Augustine.

Apparant and notorious iniquities ought both to be reproved and condemned, but we should never judge such things as we understand not nor can certainly know whether they be done with a good or evill intent.

St. Augustine.

When thou knowest not apparantly, judge charitably; because it's besser

bester to thinke well of the wicked then by frequent censuring to suspect an innocent manguilty of an offence.

St. Augustine.

The unrighteens ludge shall bee justly condemned.

His Solileguy.

As thy brother, O my foul, a beam in his eye? And haft thou no most in thine? Clear thy owne, and thou wilt fee the better to cleanse his: If a Theife bee in his Candle, blow it not out, lest thou wrong the flame, but if thy snuffers be of Gold, snuffe it: Has he offended thee? Forgive him: Hath he trespass d against the Congregation? Reprove him: Hath he sinned against God? Pray for him. O my soule, how uncharitable

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charitable hast thou been? How Pharifaically hast thou judg'd? Being fick of the laundies, how haft thou censur'd another yellow? And with blotted fingers made his blurre the greater? How has the pride of thine owne heart blinded thee toward thy selfe? How quick fighted to another! Thy brother has flipt, but thou hast fallen, and hast blancht thy owne impiery with the publishing his fin : Like a Flie thou stingest his fores and feed'ft on his corruptions; Iefus came eating and drinking, and was judg'd a glutton; John came fasting, and was challeng d with a devill; Iudge not my foule, lest thou be judged; maligne not thy brother, lest God laugh at thy destruction: Wouldit thou escape the punishment? judge thy selfe: Wouldst thou avoid the sin?hamble thy selfe. His

His Prayer.

God that art the onely of fearcher of the Reines, to whom the fecrers of the heart of man are only known, to whom alone the judgement of our thoughts, our words & deeds belong, and to whose sentence we must stand or fall, I a presumptuous finner that have thrust into thy place and boldly have prefumed to execute thy office, do here as humbly confesse the insolence of mine attempt, and with a forrowfuli heart repent me of my doings; and though my convinced conscience can look for nothing from thy wrathfull hand but the fame measure which I measured to another, yet in the confidence of that mercy which thou hast promised to all those that

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that truly and unfainedly beleeve, I am become an humble futor for thy gratious pardon: Lord, if then fearch me but with a favourable eye, I shall appeare much more unrighteous in thy fight, then this my uncharitably condemned brother did in mine. O looke not therefore, Lord, upon me as I ath, lest thou abhor me; but through the merits of my bleffed Saviour, cast a gratious eye upon me; Let his humilitie fatisfie for my prefumption, and let his meritorious fufferings answer for my vile uncharitablenesse; let not the voice of my offence provoke thee with a stronger cry, then the language of his Intercession. Remove from me O Godall spirituall pride, and make me little in my own conceit; Lord light me to my felfe, that by thy light I may difcerne how dark I am; Lighten that darkedarknesse by thy holy Spirit, that I may learch into my own corruptions: And fince O God all gifts and graces are but nothing, and nothing can be acceptable in thy fight without charity; quicken the dulneffe of my faint affections, that I may love my brother as I ought; Soften my marble heart that it may melt at his infirmities; Make me carefull in the examination of my owne wayes, and moft fever eagainst my owne offences: Pull out the beam out of mine owne eye, that I may fee clearly, and reprove wifely. Take from me O Lord, all grudging, envy, and malice, that my feafonable reproofs may win my brother. Preferve my heart from all cento. rious thoughts, and keep my tongue from ftriking at his name: Grant that I make right use of

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182 The Liars Fallacies.

his Infirmities, and read good Leffons in his failings, that loving him in thee, and thee in him according to thy command, wee may both bee united in thee as members of thee, that thou mayeft receive honour from our communion here, and we eternall glory from thee hereafter in the world to come.

The Liars Fallacies.

Ay if Religion be so strict a Law to binde my tongue to the necessity of a truth on all occasions, at all times, and in all places, the gate is too strait for me to enter: Or if the generall rules of down-right truth will admit no sew exceptions, sarewell all honest mirth, farewell all trading, farewell the whole converte be-

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The Liars Fallacies 183

twixt man and man: If alwayes to speak punchuall truth bee the true Symptomes of a bleffed foule: Tom Tell troth has a happy time, and fooles and children are the only men. Iftruth fit Regent, in what faithfull breaft fhall fecrets finde repose? What king dome can be fafe? What Common wealth can be secure? What warre can be successefull? What Stratagem can prosper ? if bloody times should force Religion to shroud it selfe beneath my roose; upon demand, shall my false truth betray it. Or shall my brothers life, or shall my owne be seis'd upon through the cruell truth of my down-right confession? or rather not be secured by a faire officious lie ? shall the righteous Favorite of Egypts Tyrant, by vertue of a loud lie, sweeten out his joy and heigthen up his loft affection with

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with the antiperistasis of teares, and may I not prevaricate with a fullen truth to lave a brothers life, from a bloodthirsty hand? shall Jacob and his too indulgent mother, conspire in a lie to purchase a paternall bloffing in the falle name, and habit of a supplanted brother, and shall I question to preferve the granted bleffing of a life, or livelihood, with a harmeleffe lie? Come, come, my foul, let not thy timerous conscience check at fuch poor things as these: Solong as thy officious tongue zymes at a just end a lie is no offence: So long as thy perjutious lips confirme not thy untruth with an and cious brow, thou niedst not feare: The weight of the can'e releeves the burthen of the Crime: Is thy Center good? No matter how crooked the lines of the circumference be: Po-Licie

The Lyars Fallacies. 185

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licie allowes it : If thy journies end be heaven, it matters not how full of Hell thy journey be, Divinity allowes it : Wilt thou condemn the Egyptian Midwives for faving the infant Ilraelites by fo merciful a lie? When martial execution is to be done wilt thou fear to kill? When hunger drives thee to the gates of death, wilt thou be afraid to Reale? When civill warres divide a Kingdome, will Mercuries decline a lie? No, circumstances excuse, as well as make the lie; Had Cafar, Scipio, or Alexander been regulated by such Arich Divinity, their names had been as filent as their duft: A lie is but a faire put off, the sanctuary of a fecret, the riddle of a lover, the fratagem of a Souldier, the policy of a Statesman, anda falve for many desperate sores.

The hark, my foule, there's D something rounds mine eare, and calls my language to a recantation : The I ord hath spoken it,

Liers shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire

and brimstone, Revel. 21.8.

Exod. 20.

I hou shalt not raise a false report. Levit. 19.11.

Te shall not deal falfely neither lie one to another.

Prov. 12.22.

Lying lips are abomination to the Lord, but they that deal truely are his delight.

Prov. 19. 5.

He that Speaketh lies shall not escape.

Ephef. 4. 15.

Put away lying, and every one Speak truth with his neighbour, for me are members one of anosber. Revel.

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Revel. 21. 27.

There shall in no wife enter into the new Ierusalem any thing that worketh abomination, or that maketh a lie.

S. Augustine.

Whosoever thinkes there is any kind of lie that is not a sin, shame-fully deceives himself, mistaking alying or consening knave for a square or honest man.

Gregor.

Eschem and avoid all falshood, though sometime: certain kind of untruths are lesse sinfull, as to tell a lie to save a mans life; yet because the Scripture saith. The lyet flayeth his own soul, and God will destroy them that tell a lie; therfore, religious and honest men should alwayes avoid even the best sort of lies, neither ought another mans life be secured by our false-

hood or lying, left we destroy our owne soule in labouring to secure another mans life.

His Soliloquy.

Hat a child O my foule, hath thy false bosome harbord! And what reward can thy indulgence expect from fuch a father? What bleffing canst thou hope for from heaven, that pleadest for the fon of the devill, and crucifyest the Son of God? God is the Father of truth; To secure thy estate thou deniest the truth, by framing of a lie: To fave thy brothers life, thou opposest the truth in justifying a lie. Now tell me O my foul, art thou worthy the name of a Christian, that denyest and opposett the nature of Christ? Art thou worthy of Christ

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Christ that preferrest thy estate, or thy brothers life before him? O my unrighteous foule, canst thou hold thy brother worthy of death for giving thee the lie, and thy felfe guiltleffe that makeft a lie? I, but in some cases truth deftroyes thy life; a lie preferves it: My foule, was God thy Creator? then make not the devill thy preferver: Wilt thou despair to trust him with thy life that gave it, and make him thy Protector that feeks to destroy it? Reforme thee and repent thee, O my foul; hold not thy life on fuch conditions, but trust thee to the hands that made thee.

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His Prayer.

God, that art the God of truth, whole word is truth, that batest lying lips, and abomimatest the deceitfull tongue, that banishest thy presence all such as love or make a ly, and love ft truth, and requirett upright neffe in the inward parts, I the most wretch. ed of the fonnes of men, and most unworthy to be called thy fon, make bold to cast my sinfull eies to heaven; Lord I have finned against heaven and against truth, andhave turned thy grace into a lie; I have renounced the wayes of righteousnesse, and harbour'd much iniquity within me, which hath turned thy wrath against me; I have transgrest against the shecks of my own conscience, and have vannted of my transgression which

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which way foever I turnemine eye, I see no object but shame and confusion: Lord, when I look upon my felfe, I finde nothing there but fuell for thy wrath and matter for thine indignation, and my condemnation. And when I call mine eyes to heaven, I there beholdan angry God, and a fevere revenger; But Lord at thy right hand I fee a Saviour, and a liveer Redeemer; I fee thy wounded Soncloathdinmy flefh, and bearing mine infirmities, and interceding for my numerous transgressions; for which my soule doth magnifie thee O God, and my spirit rejoyceth in him my Saviour ; Lord, when thou lookest upon the vast score of my offences, turne thine eyes upon the infinite merits of his fatisfaction; O when thy justice calls to mind my finnes, let not thy mercy forget

forget his sufferings; Wash mee, O wash me in his blood and thou shalt see me cloathed in his righteousnesse: Let him that is all in all to me, be all in all for me; make him to me fanctification, justification and redemption: Inspire my heart with the spirit of thy truth, and preferve me from the deceitfulnesse of a double tongue: Give me an inward confidence to relie upon thy fatherly providence, that neither fear may deterre me, nor any advantage may turne me from the wayes of thy truth: Let not the specious goodnesse of the end encourageme to the unlawfulnesse of the meanes, but let thy Word be the warrant to all my actions; Guide my footsteps that I may walke uprightly, and quicken my conscience, that it may reprove my failings: Caule me to feel the burthen

burthen of this my habituall sin, that comming to thee by a true and serious repentance, my sins may obtaine a full and a gratious forgivenesse: Give me a heart to make a Covenant with mylips, that both my heart and tongue being sand sfied by thy Spirit, may be both united in truth by thy mercy, and magnifice thy name for ever, and for ever.

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The revengefull mans rage.

O What a Julip to my feorehing foul is the delicious blood of my Offender! and how it cooles the burning Fever of my boyling veynes! It is the Quintessence of pleasures, the height of satisfaction, and the

194. The Revengefull

very marrow of all delight, to bathe and paddle in the blood of fuch, whose bold affronts have rurn'd my wounded pat ence into fury? How full of face neffe was his death, who dying was reveng'd upon three thousand enemies? How sweetly did the younger brothers blood allay the foul-confuming flames of the elder, who took more pleasure in his latt breath, then heaven dd in his first Sacrifice ? Yet had not heaven co demned his a tion, nature had found an Advocate for his passion : What flurdy spirit hath the power to rule his fuffer ng thoughts, or curbe the headstrong fully of his Irascible affections ? Or who tut fooles (that cannot tale an injury) can moderate heir highbred spirits; and thop their passion inherfullcarren? Let heavy Cynicks,

nicks, they whose leaden soules are raught by stupid reason to fland bent at every wrong, that can digest an injury more easily. then a complement, that can protell against the Lawes of nature, and cry all naturall affection downe, let them be Andirons for the injurious world to worke 2 Heat upon : let them finde shoulders to receive the paineful stripes ofpeevish Mortalis, and to bear the wrongs of daring insolence : Let them be drawne like Calves p epar'd for flanghter, and bow their fervile necks to tharp deftruction : let them fubmit their flavish besomes to be trod and trampled under foot for every pleasure: My Eagle sprit flies a higher pitch, and like ambitious Phaeton climbes into the fiery Chariot, and drawne with fury, corne, revenge, and honor, rambless

bles through all the spheares, andbrings with it confusion and combustion; my reeking sword shall vindicate my reputation, and rectifie the injuries of my honorable name, and quench it felfe in plenteous streames of blood Come tell not mee of Charity, confeence, or transgression; My Charny reflects upon my felf, begins at home, and guides by the justice of my pas-fion, is bound to labour for an honourable satisfaction : My conscience is blood-proofe, and I can broach a life with my illufrious weapon with as little reluctation, askill a Flea that lucks my blood without Commission, and I can drinke a health in blood upon my bendedknee, to reputation.

But hark my soule I heare a languishing, a dying voyce cry up to heaven for vengeance;

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It cries aloud, and thunders in my tlattling eare, I tremble and my shiveting bones are filled with ho for; It cries again ime, and heare what heaven replies,

All that take up the sword shall perish by the sword, Match 25. 52.

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Levic. 10. 18.

Thou shalt not avenge, or bear any grudge against the Children of my people, but then shalt love thy neighbour as thy selfe: I am the Lord.

Deut. 32.35,

To me belongeth vengeance and recompence.

Ezek. 24. 12, 13.

Because that Edom hath delt against the house of Indah, by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himselfe upon them:

Therefore thus faith the Lord God, I will also stretch out mine hand upon upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it.

Marth. 5. 39.

Resist not evill, but who soever shall smite thee on the right cheek surn to him the other also.

Tertull.

What's the difference between one that doth an injury, and another that outragiously suffers it except that the one is first and the other fecand in the of ence? but both are guilty of mutuall injury in the sight of God; who forbids every since, and condemnes the offender.

Tertull.

How can we honour God if we revenge our solves?

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His Soliloguy. 199 Gloff.

Every man is a murtherer, and shall be punished as Cain was if he doe (as Cain did) either. affault his brother with violence, or purfue him with hatred.

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His Soliloguy.

D Evenge is an Act of the I Iraferble affections, deliberated with malice, and executed without mercy: How often O my foule haft thou curied thy felfe in the perfecteft of Prayers? How often haft thou turn'd the spirituall body of thy Saviour into thy damnation? Can the Sun rife to thy comfort, that hath fo often fet in thy wrath? So long as thy wrath is kindled against thy off, brother, so long is the wrath of

God burning against thee? O, wouldst thou offer a pleasing faer fice to heaven? Goe first and be reconciled to thy brother. I, but who shall right thy honour then? Is thy honour wrong'd? Forgive, and it is vindicated. I, but this kinde of heart-swelling, cin brook no Powlteffe but revenge. Take heed, my foule, the remedy is worse then the disease: If thy intricate distemper trans fcend thy power, make choyce of a Physician that can purge that humour that foments thy malady: Rely upon him; submit thy will to his directions; he hath a tender heart, a skilfull hand, a warchfull eye, that makes thy melfare the price of all thy paines, expeding no reward, no fee, but prayfes and Thanksgiving.

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God, that art the God of peace, and the lover of unity and concord, that doft command all those that seek forgivenesse, to forgive; that hatest the froward heart, but shewest mercy to the meek in spirit: Withwhat a face can I appeare before thy mercy-feat, or with what countenance can I lift up these hands thus stained with my brothers blood? How can my lips, that daily breathe revenge against my brother, presume to own thee as my father, or expect from thee thy bleffing, as thy childe? If thou forgive my trespasses O God as I forgive my trespassers, in what a miferable effate am I, that in my very prayers condemn my felfe, and doe not only limit thy compaffion by my uncharitableneffe, but draw thy judgements on my

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head for my rebellion? That heart O God which thou requirest as a holy present, is become a spring of malice; These hands which I advance, are ready infirmments of base revenge. thoughts, that should be sandified, are full of blood, and how to compasse evill against my brother is my continuall meditation: The course of all my life is wilfull disobedience, and my whole pleasure, Lord, is to difplease thee: My conscience hath accused me, and the voyce of blood hath cryed against me: But Lord, the blood of Jesus cryes louder then the blood of Abell, and thy mercy is farre more infinite then my finne. The blood that was shed by me cryes for vengeance, but the blood that was shed for me sues for mercy; Lord heare the language or this blood.

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blood, and by the merits of this voyce be reconciled unto me. That time which cannot be recalled, O give me power to redeem, and in the meane time a fetled resolution to reform. Suppresse the violence of my head. frong paffion, and effablish a meek spirit within me. Let the fight of my own vilenesse take from me the fense of all disgrace, and let the Crown of my reputation be thy honour; Possesse my heart with a defire of unity and concord, and give me patience to endure what my impenitence hath deferved : Breath into my foule the spirit of love, and direct my affections to their right objed; turn all my anger against that finne that hath provoked thee, and give me holy revenge, that I may exercise it against my felfe. Grant that I may love thee

The fecure mans

for thy felfe, my felfe in thee, and my neighbour as my felfe; Affift me O God, that I may subdue all evill in my felfe, and fuffer patiently all evill as a punishment from thee. Give me a mercifull heart, O God; make it flow to wrath, and ready to forgive; Preferve me from the act of evill, that I may be delivered from the feare of evill; that living here in charity with men, I may receive shat lentence of, Come ye bleffed, in the kingdom of glory.

The secure mans Triumph.

CO, now my foule thy happi-Ineffe is entaild and thy illuftriousname shall live in thy fueceeding Generations; Thy dwelling is establish'd in the fat of all the land : thou halt what mortall taug

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tall heart can wish, and wantest nothing but immortalitie : The best of all the land is thine, and thou art planted in the best of Landr: A land whose Confitutions make the best of Government, which Government is ftrengthened with the best of Laws, which Lawer are executed by the best of Princes, whose Prince, whose Lawer, whose Government, whose land makes us the happiest of all subjects, makes us the happielt of all people. A land of strength, of plenty, and a land of peace, where every foule may fit beneath his Vine. unfrighted at the horrid language of the boarfe Trumpet, unstart. llu- led at the warlike fummons of the (ucroaring Cannon. A land whose beauty hath furprized the ambitious hearts of forrain Princes, and tall taught them by their martiall O-

196 The Secure mans

ratory to make their vaine attempts. A land whose strength reades vanity in the deceived hopes of Conquerours, and crowns their enterprizes with a shamefull overthrow. A land whose native plenty makes her the worlds Exchange, supplying others able to subsist without supply from forraigne Kingdomes; in it selfe happy; and abroad honorable. A land that hath no vanity, but what by accident proceeds and iffues from the fiveetest of all bleffings, peace and plenty ; that hath no mifery but what is propagated from that blindness which cannot fee her own felicitie. A land that flowes with Milk and Honey, and in briefe, wants nothing to deferve the title of a Paradife, the Curbe of Spaine, the pride of Germany, the ayde of Belgia, the scenrge of France,

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France the Empre Se of the world, and Queene of Nations: She is begirt with walls, whose builder was the hand of heaven, whereon there daily rides a Navy Royall. whose unconquerable power proclaimes her Prince invincible, and whispers sad despaire into the fainting hearts of forraigne Majesty: She is compact within her felfe, in unity, not apt to civil discords or intestine broyles; The envie of all nations, the ambition of all Princes; the terror of all enemies, the fecurity of all neighbouring States. Let timerous Pulpies threaten ruine, let prophecying Church-men dote till I beleeve : How often and how long have these loud fonnes of Thunder false prophefied her desolation ? and yet she flands the glory of the world: Can pride demolish the Towers that K 2 defend

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defend her? Can drunkenneise dry up the Sea that wallsher? Can flames of lust dissolve the Ord-nance that protect her?

De well advised my soule; There is a voyee from heaven roare louder then those Ord-

nance, which faith,

Thus faith the Lord, The whole land feall be defelate, Jer. 4.27.

Efay 14: 7.

The whole earsh is at reft, and at quiet, they break forth into fing-

Yea the Firre trees rejoyee at thee, and the Cedars of Lebanon fing,

de.

Fet shalt thoube brought down to hell, to the sides of the Pit.

Icr. 5. F2.

They have belied the Lord, and faid, It is not he, neither shall come upon us, neither shall we see sword, or famine.

r Cor.

1 Cor. 10. 12.

Let him that standeth take heed lest be fall.

Luke 17. 26.

They did eat and drink, and they married wives and were given in marriage, untill the flood came and defroyed them all.

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Greg. Mor.

A mean may as foon build a Cafile upon the rouling waves, as ground a folid comfort upon the uncertaine ebbs and fluxes of transient pleasures.

St. Augustine.

whilf Lot was exercised in sifering repreash and violence, he continued hely and pure, even in the filth of Sodom: but in the mount being in peace and safety, he was surprised by sensuall security, and defiled himself exich his owne daughters.

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Our prosperous and happy state is often the occasion of more miserabl ruine, a long peace hath made many men both carelesse and cowardly; and that's the most fatall blow when an unexpected enemy surprises us in a deep steep of peace and security, Greg. Mag.

His Soliloguy.

Security is an improvident Scarelessife, casting out all sear of approaching danger; It is like a great Calme at Sea, that foremns a storme: How is this verified O my sad soule in this our bleeding nation! Wer't thou not but now for many yeares even nuzzl din the bosome of habituall peace? Didst thou foresee this danger? Or couldst thou have con-

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contrived a way tobe thus mife rable? Didit thou not laugh invalion to scorne? or didst thou not leffe feare a Civill war ? Was not the Title of the Crown unquestionable? And was not our mixt government unapt to fall into dileales? Did we want good Lawer? or did our Lawes want execution? Did not our Prophets give lawfull warning? or were we moved at the found of judgements? How hast thou liv'd O my uncarefull foule to fee thefe prophefies fulfill'd, and to behold the vials of thy angry God pour'd forth' Since mereres O my foule could not allure thee, yet let these judgement inow atlength enforce thee to a true Repentance. Quench the Firebrand which thou haft kindled; turne thy mirth to a right mourning and thy feafts of joy to humiliation.

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His Prayer.

Oand kingdoms flourish, that fettelt up where none can batter down, and pullest down where none can countermand, I a most humble Sutor at the Throne of Grace, acknowledge my selse unworthy of the least of all thy mercies, nay worthy of the greatest of all thy judgements: I have finned against thee the author of my being, I have finned against my conscience, which thou halt made my accuser, I have finned against the peace of this Kingdom, wherof thou haft made mee a member : If all should doe, O God, as I have done, Sodom would appeare as righteous, and Gomorrah would be a prefident to thy wrath upon this

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this finfull Nation. But Lord thy mercy is inscrutable, or else my misery were unspeakable, for that mercy fake bee grations to me in the free pardoning of all my offences. Blot them out of thy remembrance for his fake in whom thou art well pleased: Make my head a fountaine of teares to quench that brand my finnes have kindled towards the destruction of this flourishing kingdome; Bleffe this kingdom O God, establish it in piety, honour, peace, and plenty. Forgive all her crying finnes, and remove thy judgements farre from her. Bleffe her Governour, thy fervant, our dread Soveraign, endue his foule with all religious, civill, and princely vertues; Preferve his royall person in health, safety, and prosperity; prolong his days in honour, peace, or victory, and EWO13

erown his death with everlasting glory. Bleffe him in his royall Confort, unite their hearts in love and true Religion, Bleffe him in his princely iffue; Season their youth with the feare of thy Name. Direct thy Church in dostrine and in discipline, and let her enemies bee converted, or confounded; purge her of all Superflition and herefe, and root out from her, whatfoever thy hand hath not planted. Bleffe the Nobility of this Land, endue their hearts with truth, loyalty, and true policy. Bleffe the Tribe of Levi, with piety, learning, and humility. Bleffe the Magiftrares of this kingdome, give them religious & upright hearts, hating coveroulnesse. Blesse the Gentry with fincetity, charity, and a good conscience. Blesse the Commonalty with loyall hearts,

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hearts, painfull hands, and plentifull encrease. Bleffe the two great Seminaries of this kingdom, make them fruitfull and faithfull Nurseries both to the Church and Common-wealth. Bleffe all thy Saints every where, especially those that have flood in the gap betwixt this kingdom and thy judgements, that being all members of that Body wherof thou Christ art head, we may all joyn in humiliation for our finnes, and in the propagation of thy honour here, and bee made partakers of thy glory in the kingdom of glory.

The Presumptuous mans Felicities.

T Ell bauling Babes of Bugbeares, to fright them into quietnesse.

216 The presumptaous

quiernesse, or terrify youth with old wives fables . to keep their wilde affections in awe; Such Toyes may work upon their timerous apprehensions, when wholfom precepts fayl, and finde no audience in their youthfull eares: Tell not me of Hell, De. vils, or of damned fonles to enforce mee from those pleasures which they nick-name Sinne: What tell ye me of Lan? my foule is sensible of Evangelicall precepts, without the needleffe and uncorrected thunder of the killing Letter, or the terrible paraphrase of roaring Bonnarges, the tedioninesse of whose language still determines in damnation; wherein I apprehend God farre more mercifull then his Ministers. Tis true, I have not led my life according to the pharifaicall Square of their opinions, neither

neither have I found judgements according to their Prophecies, whereby I must conclude that God is wonderfully mercifull, or they wonderfully mistaken. How often have they thundred torment against my voluptuous life, and yet I feele no pain : How bitterly have they threatned shame against the vaunts of my vain-glory? yet finde I honour: How fiercely have they preacht destruction against my cruely? and yet I live: What plagues against my swearing? yet not infected : What diseases against my drunkenne fe? and yet found; What danger against procrastina-tion? yet how often hath God been found upon the death-bed? What damnation to Hypocrites? yet who more fafe ? What stripes to the ignorant? yet who more Scotfree? What poverty to the Storbfull?

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218 His Anathemaes.

flothfull? yet themselvs prosper: What fals to the proud? yet they fland fureft : What curies to the coverous? yet who richer? What judgements to the lascivious? yet who more pleasure? What vengeance to the prophane, the cenforious, the revengefull? yet none live more unfcourg'd: Who deeper branded then the Lyar? yet who more favourd? Who more threatend then the pre-Sumituous ? yet who leffe punisht? Thus are wee foold and kept in awe with the Arich fancies of those Pulpit-men, whose opinions have no ground but what they gaine from popularity : Thus are wee frighted from the liberty of Nature by the politick Chimeraes of Religion; whereby wee are necessitated to the observing of those Lawes whereof wee finde a greater necessity

necessity of breaking.

But stay my soule, there is a voyce that darts into my troubled thoughts, which saith, Because thou hast not kept my Lawes, all the curses in this Book shall overtake thee, till thou be destroyed, Deut. 29

Deut. 29. 27

And the anger of the Lord was kindled against the land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this Book.

2 Chron. 34. 34

Thus faith the Lord, behold I will bring evill upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the carses that are written in the book

Deut.28.15

But if thou wilt not hearken unto the voyce of the Lord thy God to observe and doe all his commandements, and his statues which which I command thee this day, all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

Bernard.

It is certain thou must die, and uncertaine when, how or where; seeing death is alwayes at thy heeles; Thou must (if thou bee wise) alwayes be ready so die. Bernard.

To commit a fin is an humane frail.

ty, to perfift in it is a divelish obfinacy.

Bernard.

There are some who hope in the Lord, but yet in vaine, because they enely smooth and flatter themselves, that God is moreifull, but repent not of their sin; such considence is vain and foolish, and leads to destruction.

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His Solilaguy.

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P Resumption is a sin whethy we depend upon Gods mercies without any warrant from Gods Word: It is as great a fin, O my foule, to hope for Gods mercy, without Repentance, as to diffrait Gods mercy upon Repentance: In the first thou wrongst his jufisce ; In the laft, his mersy : O my prefumptuous foule, let not thy profperity in finning encourage thee to finne; left, climbing without warrant into his mercy, thou fall without werey into his judgement : Be not deceived; a long Peace makes a bloody Warre, and the abuse of continued mercies makes a sharpe judgement : Patience, when flighted, turnes to fury, but illrequited, starts to vengeance : Thinke

Thinke not, that thy unpunisht fin is hidden from the eye of heaven, or that Gods judgements will delay for ever : The stalled Oxe that wallowes in his plenty, and waxes wanton with eafe, is not farre from flaughter : The Ephod O mydesperate soule, is long a filling, but once being full, the leaden cover must goe on; and then, it hurries on the wings of the wind : Advise thee then, and whilst the Lampe of thy prosperity lasts, provide thee for the evill day, which being come repentance will bee out of date, and all thy prayers will finde no eare.

His Prayer.

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Gratious God, whose mercy is unsearchable, and whose goodnesse is unspeakable, I the unthankfull object of thy continued favours, and therefore the miserable subject of thy continuall wrath humbly prefent myfelfmade misery before thy facred Majestie; Lord when I look upon the horridnesse of my sin, shame firikes me dumbe : But when I turne mine eie upon the infinitenesse of thy mercy, I am emboldned to pour forth my foule before thee; as in the one finding matter for confusion; so in the other arguments for compassion: Lord I have finned grievously, but my Saviour hath fatisfied abundantly ; I have trepaffed continually, but he hath fuffered once for

for all: Thou haft numbred my transgressions by the haires of my head, but his mercies are innumerable like the starres of the skie : My finnes in great nesse are like the mountaines of the earth, but his mercy is greater then the heavens: Oh if his mercy were not greater then my fins, my fins were impardonable; for his therefore and thy mercies fake cover my fins, and pardon my transgressions: make my head a fountain of teares, and accept my contrition O thou Well-spring of all mercy : ftrengthen my refolution, that for the time to come I may deteft all fin : Encrease a holy anger in me that I may revenge my felfe upon my felfe, for displeasing so gracious a Father; Fill my heart with a feare of thy judgements, and sweeten my thoughts with the meditation of

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thy mercies: Go forwards O my God, and perfect thy own work in mee, and take the glory of thy own free goodnesse; furnish my mouth with the prayies of thy name, and replenish my tongue with continuall thanksgiving; Thou haft promised pardon to those that repent; behold Irepent, Lord quicken my Repentance. Thou mightst have made me a terrible example of thy justice, and firmek me into hell in the heigth of my presumption; bat thou haft made me capable of thy mercies, and an object of thy com. miseration; for thou art a gracious God, of long-suffering and flow to anger, thy name is wonderfull, and thy mercies incomprehenfible: Thon art onely worthy to be praised: Let all the people praise thee O God: O let all the people praise thee : Let Angels. Angels and Archangels praise thee, Let the Congregations of Saints praise thee, let thy works prayse thee, let every thing that breathes prayse thee for ever, and for ever,

Amen.

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